FOUNDATION STATEMENT – ALASKA UNIT

WORLD WAR II VALOR IN THE PACIFIC
This foundation document was produced jointly by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service, with input from regional technical experts. The document provides a vision for future decision making and the development of management and implementation plans that will define the Alaska Unit’s operations, resource protection, and visitor experience. Similar foundation documents are being produced for the Hawaii and California units. Combined, these documents will set the stage for future planning and development of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.
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Japanese mountain gun on Little Kiska.  
Kent Sundseth/USFWS 2007.


Included in this group photograph are the 10 members of the Navy weather crew who were on Kiska at the time of the Japanese invasion. Aerographer's Mate William Charles (2nd from the left, back row) eluded capture for 50 days before starvation forced him to turn himself in to the Japanese. All were taken to Japan and released after the War. Photograph courtesy of the National Archives.
Introduction

“Beginning at Pearl Harbor with the day of infamy that saw the sinking of the USS Arizona and ending on the deck of the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay, many of the key battles of World War II were waged on and near American shores and throughout the Pacific. We must always remember the debt we owe to the members of the Greatest Generation for our liberty. Their gift is an enduring peace that transformed enemies into steadfast allies in the cause of democracy and freedom around the globe.”

Presidential Proclamation 8327, December 5, 2008

These are the words President George W. Bush used in the proclamation that established the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

As guided by Presidential Proclamation 8327, World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument consists of World War II battlefields, sites, and other historic features in Hawaii, Alaska, and California — all of which contribute to telling a comprehensive and broad story of the Pacific War (World War II in the Pacific). The telling of this story goes beyond the creation of the national monument. The national monument is a part of an expanded educational and interpretive endeavor to ensure that future generations have a rich and thorough understanding of the sacrifices and triumphs made on their behalf.

In Honolulu, Hawaii, the National Park Service manages the national monument to preserve memories, protect historical sites, and research histories of the Pacific War to inspire visitors from all over the world and to commemorate the heroic sacrifices in the cause of democracy and freedom. In partnership with the Navy Region Hawaii, the National Park Service is able to protect many of the historic resources associated with World War II.

Along Alaska’s Aleutian chain, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages the national monument to honor soldiers and civilians and their sacrifices by protecting World War II landscapes, sites, and artifacts; by promoting research; and by telling the stories of the war in the North Pacific. The National Park Service is partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help tell the story and pursue research opportunities.

At Tule Lake, California, the national monument is managed through a partnership between the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to preserve, study, and interpret for public education the setting and history of the incarceration and later segregation of Nikkei (U.S. citizens of Japanese descent and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry) at Tule Lake during World War II.

Throughout the Pacific, the National Park Service preserves other World War II sites that commemorate and tell the stories of the Pacific War. On Guam, the War in the Pacific National Historical Site protects battlefields, gun emplacements, trenches, and historic structures that all serve as silent reminders of the bloody World War II battles there. In the Northern Mariana Islands at Saipan, the American Memorial Park honors the American and Marianas people who gave their lives during the Marianas Campaign of World War II.

The comprehensive story of World War II in the Pacific cannot be told solely by the sites of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. The Pacific War covered one-third of the globe, much of it on small islands scattered across a vast ocean. The Pacific War was an unprecedented conflict.
waged on the ground, in the air, and at sea. It involved vast distances and new strategies, tactics, equipment, and weapons. Millions fought and died in a war that involved not just Japan and the United States, but Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Canada, China, France, and the Soviet Union as well. Caught in the middle were the people of the Pacific Islands upon whose homelands and in whose waters the battles for the Pacific were fought. There are many other public and private agencies and organizations that work to preserve historic resources, memorials, museums, and libraries, which taken together tell a more complete story.
Management Considerations for the Alaska Unit

The World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument — Alaska Unit includes historic resources on Atka, Kiska, Little Kiska, and Attu islands. These sites include the following:

- Atka Consolidated B-24D Liberator Bomber Crash Site — a type of aircraft that played a significant role in World War II
- Kiska Island Occupation Site — the northern limit of Imperial Japan’s expansion in the Pacific
- Attu Island Battle Site — the site of the only land battle fought in North America during World War II

All sites in the Alaska Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument are on lands managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. These sites became part of the refuge in 1913 when President William H. Taft established the Aleutian Islands Reservation (Executive Order 1733) as a breeding ground for native birds, propagation of reindeer and furbearers, and encouragement and development of fisheries (see appendix A).

The Aleutian Islands Reservation was later renamed the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, and then, in 1980 with passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the refuge became the Aleutian Islands Unit of the newly created Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. The act outlined five major purposes for this new refuge, with a primary purpose of conserving fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity (see appendix A).

Various parts of the Alaska Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument have additional designations. Some of the lands are located in the Aleutian Islands Wilderness (designated in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act) and overlap with two National Historic Landmarks — the Attu Battlefield and U.S. Army and Navy Airfields on Attu and the Japanese Occupation Site on Kiska.

The World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument — Alaska Unit commemorates heroic sacrifice and valor, and the unit was meant to convey the broader story of World War II in the Pacific. The national monument symbolizes not only the stories associated with Atka, Kiska, Little Kiska, and Attu, but also helps interpret World War II in the Pacific. National Historic Landmarks on Adak, Umnak, Unalaska, Kodiak, and Sitka also testify to the scope of the war effort in Alaska. The Aleutian World War II National Historic Area on Unalaska links the story of the military campaign with that of the Unangan (Aleut) people who were uprooted from their homes and sent to internment camps. The Alaska Unit, along with the national monument’s Hawaii and Tule Lake units, tells the story of World War II in the Pacific from Pearl Harbor to peace.
Location

World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument

Aleutian Islands, Alaska
- Attu Island Battle Site
- Atka Island B-24 Liberator Crash Site
- Kiska Island Japanese Occupation Site

California
- Tule Lake Segregation Center
  National Historic Landmark/
  Camp Tule Lake

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- USS Arizona Memorial
  and Visitor Center
- USS Oklahoma Memorial
- Chief Petty Officer Bungalows
  - USS Utah Memorial
  - Mooring Quays
National Monument Maps
Kiska Area 1 - 50 Acres
Kiska Area 2 - 70 Acres
Kiska Area 3 - 1860 Acres
Kiska Area 4 - 360 Acres
Kiska Area 5 - 5 Acres

Acres calculated using ArcGIS Software.
Elements of a Foundation Statement

The foundation statement is a formal description of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument’s core mission. Information provided in this document will support planning and management of the monument. The foundation is grounded in the monument’s proclamation and knowledge acquired since the monument was established. It provides a shared understanding of what is most important about the monument. This foundation statement describes the monument’s purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, primary interpretive themes, and special mandates.

The proclamation that created World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument guides the monument staff in understanding and documenting why the president created the monument. The foundation statement includes the following elements.

- **Purpose Statement**
  The purpose statement identifies why the president established the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. The purpose of the monument is based on the presidential proclamation.

- **Significance Statement**
  Guided by proclamation and the knowledge acquired through management, research, and civic engagement, statements of significance define what is most important about the monument’s natural and cultural resources and values. The significance statements are used to guide planning and management decisions to ensure that the resources and values that the president wanted preserved are the first priority.

- **Fundamental Resources and Values**
  The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service work to preserve those resources and values fundamental to maintaining the significance of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. Through identifying and understanding the resources and values that support each significance statement, managers and their staff gain a clearer understanding of what is truly most important about the monument. That which is most important about the monument could be jeopardized if these resources and values are degraded.

- **Primary Interpretive Themes**
  Primary interpretive themes describe the key stories or concepts that will help visitors understand and appreciate the purpose and significance of the monument. The primary interpretive themes provide the foundation on which the monument’s educational and interpretive program is based.

- **Special Mandates**
  Special mandates are legal requirements and administrative commitments that apply to the national monument. These special mandates may include direction from Congress or formal agreements with other public or private entities that are consistent with U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Park Service (NPS) legal mandates and policies. The special mandates are identified to ensure their consideration in planning and decision making for World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.
National Monument — Alaska Unit Purpose

World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument – Alaska Unit honors soldiers and civilians and their sacrifices by protecting World War II landscapes, sites, and artifacts; promoting research; and telling the stories of war in the North Pacific.

U.S. troops transporting the wounded on Attu, May 1943. Photograph courtesy Archives, University of Alaska Fairbanks.
Summary of Significance Statements

The Forgotten War Remembered
World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit commemorates a theatre of war, long overlooked, that played a significant role in World War II in the Pacific and transformed the demographics, culture, and environment of Alaska.

Invasions, Occupations, and Battles
World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit preserves, protects, and interprets the stories and evidence of foreign invasion and occupation and the only land battle fought in North America in World War II.

Stories of Sacrifice
World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit tells the stories that illustrate sacrifices made by World War II soldiers and civilians in the North Pacific.

The Role of Aviation
World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit promotes the study and interpretation of the crucial role of aviation in the war in the Aleutians and victory in the Pacific.

Historic Resource Protection
World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit protects important war plane crash sites and one of the best preserved World War II battlefield landscapes in the world.

The Legacy: Lasting Effects of War
World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit furthers our understanding of the legacy and lingering effects of World War II in Alaska.

Japanese 25 mm anti-aircraft guns protected the approaches to the main Japanese camp area near Kiska Harbor. Today one 25 mm battery remains in its original location overlooking the harbor. Kent Sundseth/USFWS 2007.
The Forgotten War Remembered

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

World War II Valor in the Pacific – Alaska Unit commemorates a theatre of war, long overlooked, that played a significant role in World War II in the Pacific and transformed the demographics, culture, and environment of Alaska.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **The Story of World War II in the North Pacific** — The national monument provides the opportunity to broadly tell the World War II stories and events that occurred in the North Pacific and Alaska.

- **Integrity of Historic Resources** — The historic resources remaining from World War II in the Aleutian Islands are among the best preserved in the world.

- **Aleutian Islands Landscape** — The national monument preserves the authentic and intact natural features of the World War II setting.

- **Archival and Museum Collections** — Collections include published and unpublished materials and media, objects, photos, reports, oral histories, other military and civilian documents, and personal artifacts of military and civilian daily life that document the Japanese invasion of Attu and Kiska Islands, the internment of Attu Natives in Japan, and the subsequent battle and occupation of the islands by Allied forces.

- **Research** — The national monument provides the opportunity for historic, anthropological, sociological, and humanistic study of the war.

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Driftwood tree planted in the treeless tundra reminded soldiers of home. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.

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PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

By telling the whole story of World War II in the Pacific, and the sacrifices of military personnel and civilians, the Forgotten War will be remembered.
Flight crews being briefed for Aleutian Islands missions during World War II. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.

P-38s warming up on the Marsden matting airstrip before a mission. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.
Invasions, Occupations, and Battles

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

World War II Valor in the Pacific – Alaska Unit preserves, protects, and interprets the stories and evidence of foreign invasion and occupation and the only land battle fought in North America in World War II.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **Kiska Island** — The Kiska Island site includes areas on Kiska and nearby Little Kiska islands. These islands contain World War II battlefield landscapes, structures, objects, and numerous features from both the Japanese and U.S./Canadian base installations. These features show all aspects of military life, including Japanese coastal defense and anti-aircraft guns, a submarine base, Shinto shrines, personnel trenches, underground structures, invasion beaches, bomb craters, tent bases and revetments, collapsed Quonset huts, vehicles, aircraft crash sites, and shipwrecks. Together these features contribute to the overall significance of the Kiska battlefield landscape.

- **Attu Island** — The island contains the battlefield landscapes, structures, and objects that retain the scars of battle — thousands of shell and bomb craters, Japanese trenches, foxholes, and gun emplacements, as well as American ammunition magazines, dumps, spent cartridges, shrapnel, and shells at the scenes of heavy fighting. The natural setting retains a high level of integrity with invasion beaches, passes, valleys, and ridges where the battle took place. Together these features contribute to the overall significance of the Attu battlefield landscape.

- **Archival and Museum Collections** — Collections include published and unpublished materials and media, objects, photos, reports, oral histories, other military and civilian documents, and personal artifacts of military and civilian daily life that document the Japanese invasion of Attu and Kiska Islands, the internment of Attu Natives in Japan, and the subsequent battle and occupation of the islands by Allied forces.

- **Oral Histories** — These include the oral histories collected from individuals involved in the invasion and occupations of Attu and Kiska Islands.

Canadian troops display the Japanese Imperial battle flag on Kiska Island in the Aleutians, August 1943. NPS photo.
PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

The Japanese invasion prompted American reaction and retaliation, resulting in an intense air war and the only land battle fought in North America during World War II.

American soldier with 75 mm gun captured from Japanese on Attu. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.

Similar 75 mm gun on Kiska. Kent Sundseth/USFWS 2007.
Stories of Sacrifice

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit tells the stories that illustrate sacrifices made by World War II soldiers and civilians in the North Pacific.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **Kiska Island** — The Kiska Island site includes areas on Kiska and nearby Little Kiska islands. These islands contain World War II battlefield landscapes, structures, objects, and numerous features from both the Japanese and U.S./Canadian base installations. These features show all aspects of military life, including Japanese coastal defense and ant-aircraft guns, a submarine base, Shinto shrines, personnel trenches, underground structures, invasion beaches, bomb craters, tent bases and revetments, collapsed Quonset huts, vehicles, aircraft crash sites, and shipwrecks. Together these features contribute to the overall significance of the Kiska battlefield landscape.

- **Attu Island** — The island contains a former village site, gravesites, battlefield landscapes, structures, and objects that retain the scars of battle, with thousands of shell and bomb craters, Japanese trenches, foxholes, and gun emplacements, as well as American ammunition dumps, magazines and spent cartridges, shrapnel, and shells at the scenes of heavy fighting. The natural setting retains a high level of integrity with invasion beaches, passes, valleys, and ridges where the battle took place. Together these features contribute to the overall significance of the Attu battlefield landscape.

- **Atka B-24D Crash Site** — The Atka B-24D Liberator bomber crash site includes the wreckage and the surrounding site.

- **Archival and Museum Collections** — Collections include published and unpublished materials and media, objects, photos, reports, oral histories, other military and civilian documents, and personal artifacts of military and civilian daily life that document the Japanese invasion of Attu and Kiska Islands, the internment of Attu Natives in Japan, and the subsequent battle and occupation of the islands by Allied forces.

- **Partnerships** — Partners tell the stories of soldiers on both sides of the conflict and of Unangan (Aleut) people who were interned in Japan and Southeast Alaska. These partners include American, Canadian, and Japanese historians, and the Aleutian World War II National Historic Area.

- **Other Related Sites** — These related historic places help convey stories of sacrifice, including the Unangan (Aleut) trapping camps, an Atka village, Lost Village sites, cemeteries, southeast Alaska Unangan (Aleut) internment camps, and other World War II sites within the refuge.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

People swept up in the war in the Aleutians suffered extraordinary losses of lives, liberty, home, and community.
St. Paul Island Unangan (Aleut) evacuees aboard the Delarof enroute to a Southeast Alaska internment camp. Photograph courtesy of the National Archives.

Accompanied by refuge staff, Unangan (Aleut) elders and their descendents visit the site of their childhood village of Makushin on Unalaska Island. All were forcibly removed during World War II. Makushin and three other villages were never resettled. NPS photo 2009.
The Role of Aviation

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit promotes the study and interpretation of the crucial role of aviation in the war in the Aleutians and victory in the Pacific.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **Aircraft Wreckage** — The national monument preserves crash sites that contain wreckage representative of the types of aircraft flown in the Aleutians during World War II — specifically, the consolidated B-24D Liberator bomber on Atka and PBY-5A aircraft on Kiska. Other aircraft crash sites, both Allied and Japanese, are located in the national monument and the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

- **Airfields and Anti-aircraft Defenses** — These include a vast infrastructure of airfield and anti-aircraft defenses that demonstrate the extent of the Allied and Japanese occupations.

- **Oral History, Reports, and Military Records** — The national monument provides an opportunity to collect and share the stories of aviation in the Aleutians during the war, including the innovation and technology developed and used in the area.

- **Landscape** — The landscape contains thousands of shell and bomb craters in the tundra that capture the intensity and extent of the bombardment as Allied forces struggled to retake the islands from the Japanese.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

The national monument tells the story of the emergence of aircraft as a critical component of the war and of hundreds of intrepid fliers risking their lives in fog, rain, snow, and wind.
This Consolidated B-24D Liberator bomber came to Alaska in March 1942 and served exclusively in the Aleutian Campaign. It was subsequently taken from combat duty for use as a weather observation plane. On December 9, 1942 it crash-landed on Atka Island, Alaska, because foggy weather prevented a return to the Adak base. Department of Defense, 1942.

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

World War II Valor in the Pacific – Alaska Unit protects important war plane crash sites and one of the best preserved World War II battlefield landscapes in the world.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **Kiska Island** — The Kiska Island site includes areas on Kiska and nearby Little Kiska Island. These islands contain World War II battlefield landscapes, structures, objects, and numerous features from both the Japanese and U.S./Canadian base installations. These features show all aspects of military life, including Japanese coastal defense and anti-aircraft guns, a submarine base, Shinto shrines, personnel trenches, underground structures, invasion beaches, bomb craters, tent bases and revetments, collapsed Quonset huts, vehicles, aircraft crash sites, and shipwrecks. Together these features contribute to the overall significance of the Kiska battlefield landscape.

- **Attu Island** — The island contains the battlefield landscapes, structures, and objects that retain the scars of battle — thousands of shell and bomb craters, Japanese trenches, foxholes, and gun emplacements, as well as American ammunition magazines, dumps, spent cartridges, shrapnel, and shells at the scenes of heavy fighting. The natural setting retains a high level of integrity with invasion beaches, passes, valleys, and ridges where the battle took place. Together these features contribute to the overall significance of the Attu battlefield landscape.

- **Atka B-24 Crash Site** — The Atka B-24D Liberator bomber crash site includes the wreckage and the surrounding site.

- **Archival and Museum Collections** — Collections include published and unpublished materials and media, objects, photos, reports, oral histories, other military and civilian documents, and personal artifacts of military and civilian daily life that document the Japanese invasion of Attu and Kiska Islands, the internment of Attu Natives in Japan, and the subsequent battle and occupation of the islands by Allied forces.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

Kiska and Attu sites have global significance as authentic and largely intact landscapes that continue to tell the story of the Japanese occupation and the U.S. and Canadian efforts to regain control of the islands during the war in the Aleutians.

Japanese semi-subterranean shelter provided protection from Allied bombs and the forces of nature. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.

The Legacy: Lasting Effects of War

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

World War II Valor in the Pacific — Alaska Unit furthers our understanding of the legacy and lingering effects of World War II in Alaska.

FUNDAMENTAL RESOURCES AND VALUES

- **The Physical Remains of War** — The islands contain the World War II battlefield landscapes, structures, and objects that retain numerous features from both Japanese and Allied actions. These include Japanese defensive guns, a submarine base and miniature submarines, Shinto shrines, personnel trenches, underground structures, invasion beaches, tent bases and revetments, Quonset and Pacific hut sites, tunnel shelters, vehicles, aircraft crash sites, and shipwrecks. The landscapes also include the scars of battle with thousands of shell and bomb craters, foxholes, gun emplacements, ammunition magazines and dumps, spent cartridges, shrapnel, and artillery shells.

- **Archival and Museum Collections** — Collections include published and unpublished materials and media, objects, photos, reports, oral histories, other military and civilian documents, and personal artifacts of military and civilian daily life that document the Japanese invasion of Attu and Kiska islands, the internment of Attu Natives in Japan, and the subsequent battle and occupation of the islands by Allied forces.

- **Research** — The national monument provides the opportunity for historic, anthropological, sociological, and humanistic study of the war, and research on natural resources, especially those impacted by the war.

Adverse Legacy

The legacy of World War II also includes adverse impacts to the environment. Contaminants, debris unexploded ordnance, and introduced species affect natural resources of the refuge and national monument to this day. In particular, invasive rats have decimated seabird colonies and altered native vegetation and intertidal habitats.

PRIMARY INTERPRETIVE THEME

The Aleutian Islands were forever changed by World War II, which presents continued challenges to the environment and people.
Construction on Attu during World War II. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.


(Left) An Evermann’s rock ptarmigan perches on remnants of Marsden matting (also known as Marston mat), which was used extensively during World War II for rapid airfield construction. Steve Ebbert/USFWS 2004.
Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Excerpts from Proclamation 8327 — Establishment of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument

- ... the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall prepare a management plan within 3 years of the date of this proclamation.

- The National Park Service shall generally administer the national monument, except that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shall administer the portions of the national monument that are within a national wildlife refuge.

- The National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may prepare an agreement to share, consistent with applicable laws, whatever resources are necessary to properly manage the monument.

- Nothing in the proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation or appropriation; however, the national monument shall be the dominant reservation.

- The prohibitions required by this proclamation shall not restrict activities and exercises of the Armed forces (including those carried out by the United States Coast Guard).

- All activities and exercises of the Armed Forces shall be carried out in a manner that avoids to the extent practicable, and consistent with operational requirements, adverse impacts on monument resources and qualities.

National Historic Landmarks

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service work collaboratively in preserving and interpreting the Aleutian National Historic Landmarks. During the mid-1980s, Attu and Kiska, and six other World War II Alaska-related bases were designated National Historic Landmarks by the Secretary of the Interior, in recognition of exceptional value in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the United States. World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument — Alaska Unit reaffirms the national importance of the Attu and Kiska site designations and extends recognition to the Atka B-24D Liberator crash site. The National Park Service provides historic preservation assistance to national landmark owners, and therefore, works with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in preserving and interpreting the Attu and Kiska National Historic Landmarks. Although these landmarks do not tell all of the Aleutian-related World War II stories, they may serve as a framework for the larger historic context from which other Aleutian stories may be interpreted. The National Historic Landmarks connected with World War II in Alaska include the following:

- **Adak Army Base and Naval Operating Base (Adak Island)** — The World War II installations on Adak Island are significant in the history of the Aleutian Campaign because they allowed American forces to mount a successful offensive against the Japanese-held islands of Kiska and Attu.

- **Attu Battlefield and U.S. Army and Navy Airfields (Attu Island)** — The capture of Attu Island represented the only World War II land battle in North America. The occupation of Attu and Kiska by Japanese troops marked the peak of Japan’s expansion in the Pacific. Attu’s recapture by Americans in 1943 was costly for both sides and provided a base for bombing missions against Japanese territories.

- **Dutch Harbor Naval Operating Base and Fort Mears U.S. Army (Amaknak Island)** — Naval facilities at Dutch Harbor were the only U.S. defenses for the Aleutian Islands at the start of the war. The installation was attacked by the Japanese in June 1942. The base also served as an important North Pacific stopover in the lend-lease program with the Soviet Union.

- **Fort Glenn (formerly Cape Field at Fort Glenn) (Umnak Island)** — Built in early 1942, Cape Field was the U.S. Army’s most westerly airfield in the Aleutian Islands. From this field, bomber crews flew to counteract the Japanese as they attacked Dutch Harbor, and to participate in the early days of bombing the Japanese-held island of Kiska.

- **Kodiak Naval Operating Base and Forts Greely and Abercrombie (Kodiak Island)** — This naval operating base, with its air station and submarine base, served as the joint Alaska operations center for the Navy, Army, and Army Air Force in World War II.

- **Japanese Occupation Site (Kiska Island)** — The Japanese occupation of Kiska in June 1942 marked the peak of Japan’s military expansion in the Pacific, posed a serious threat to United States-Siberian communications (as part of the lend-lease program with Russia), and caused the Allies to divert tens of thousands of military troops to the Alaskan Theater.
• **Sitka Naval Operating Base and U.S. Army Coastal Defenses (Sitka)** — During World War II, the base and coastal defenses were important defensive installations that were strategically located between the western Aleutian Islands and Puget Sound, Washington.

• **Ladd Field** — This air installation near Fairbanks, Alaska was the site for the transfer of American lend-lease planes to Soviet crews.
Participants

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Jarmin Pass, at the head of Massacre Valley, was the scene of some of the bloodiest action in the Battle of Attu in 1943. A part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge since 1913, today it is also included in the Alaska Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument. Kent Sundseth/USFWS 2007.
Part IV

The President

Proclamation 8327—Establishment of the World War II Valor In the Pacific National Monument
President

Proclamation 8327 of December 5, 2008

Establishment of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Beginning at Pearl Harbor with the day of infamy that saw the sinking of the USS ARIZONA and ending on the deck of the USS MISSOURI in Tokyo Bay, many of the key battles of World War II were waged on and near American shores and throughout the Pacific. We must always remember the debt we owe to the members of the Greatest Generation for our liberty. Their gift is an enduring peace that transformed enemies into steadfast allies in the cause of democracy and freedom around the globe.

Americans will never forget the harrowing sacrifices made in the Pacific by soldiers and civilians that began at dawn on December 7, 1941, at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu. The surprise attack killed more than 2,000 American military personnel and dozens of civilians and thrust the United States fully into World War II.

America responded and mobilized our forces to fight side-by-side with our allies in the European, Atlantic, and Pacific theaters. The United States Navy engaged in epic sea battles, such as Midway, and our Armed Forces fought extraordinary land battles for the possession of occupied islands. These battles led to significant loss of life for both sides, as well as for the island’s native peoples. Battlegrounds such as Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Guam, Peleliu, the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa are remembered for the heroic sacrifices and valor displayed there.

The conflict raged as far north as the Alaskan territory. The United States ultimately won the encounter in the Aleutian Island chain but not without protracted and costly battles.

There were also sacrifices on the home front. Tens of millions of Americans rallied to support the war effort, often at great personal cost. Men and women of all backgrounds were called upon as industrial workers, volunteers, and civil servants. Many Americans valiantly supported the war effort even as they struggled for their own civil rights.

In commemoration of this pivotal period in our Nation’s history, the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument adds nine historic sites to our national heritage of monuments and memorials representing various aspects of the war in the Pacific.

Five of those sites are in the Pearl Harbor area, which is the home of both the USS ARIZONA and the USS MISSOURI—milestones of the Pacific campaign that mark the beginning and the end of the war. The sites in this area include: the USS ARIZONA Memorial and Visitor Center, the USS UTAH Memorial, the USS OKLAHOMA Memorial, the six Chief Petty Officer Bungalows on Ford Island, and mooring quays F6, F7, and F8, which constituted part of Battleship Row. The USS ARIZONA and USS UTAH vessels will not be designated as part of the national monument, but instead will be retained by the Department of Defense (through the Department of the Navy) as the final resting place for those entombed there.
Three sites are located in Alaska's Aleutian Islands. The first is the crash site of a Consolidated B-24D Liberator bomber—an aircraft of a type that played a highly significant role in World War II—located on Attu Island. The second is the site of Imperial Japan's occupation of Kiska Island, beginning in June 1942, which marks the northern limit of Imperial Japan's expansion in the Pacific. The Kiska site includes historic relics such as Imperial Japanese coastal and antiaircraft defenses, camps, roads, an airfield, a submarine base, a seaplane base, and other installations, as well as the remains of Allied defenses, including runway facilities and gun batteries.

The third Aleutian designation is on Attu Island, the site of the only land battle fought in North America during World War II. It still retains the scars of the battle: thousands of shell and bomb craters in the tundra; Japanese trenches, foxholes, and gun encampments; American ammunition magazines and dumps; and spent cartridges, shrapnel, and shells located at the scenes of heavy fighting. Attu later served as a base for bombing missions against Japanese holdings.

The last of the nine designations will bring increased understanding of the high price paid by some Americans on the home front. The Tule Lake Segregation Center National Historic Landmark and nearby Camp Tule Lake in California were both used to house Japanese-Americans relocated from the west coast of the United States. They encompass the original segregation center's stockade, the War Relocation Authority Motor Pool, the Post Engineer's Yard and Motor Pool, a small part of the Military Police Compound, several historic structures used by internees and prisoners of war at Camp Tule Lake, and the sprawling landscape that forms the historic setting.

WHEREAS much of the Federal property within the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument is easily accessible to visitors from around the world;

WHEREAS the Secretary of the Interior should be authorized and directed to interpret the broader story of World War II in the Pacific in partnership with the Department of Defense, the States of Hawaii, Alaska, and California, and other governmental and non-profit organizations;

WHEREAS the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument will promote understanding of related resources, encourage continuing research, present interpretive opportunities and programs for visitors to better understand and honor the sacrifices borne by the Greatest Generation, and tell the story from Pearl Harbor to Peace;

WHEREAS section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431) (the "Antiquities Act") authorizes the President, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments, and to reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected;

WHEREAS it is in the public interest to preserve the areas described above and on the attached maps as the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by section 2 of the Act of June 8, 1906 (34 Stat. 225, 16 U.S.C. 431), do proclaim that there are hereby set apart and reserved as the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument for the purpose of protecting the objects described above, all lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States within the boundaries described on the accompanying maps, which are attached and form a part of this proclamation. The Federal lands and interests in land reserved consist of approximately 6.310 acres,
which is the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected.

All Federal lands and interests in lands within the boundaries of this monument are hereby appropriated and withdrawn from all forms of entry, location, selection, sale, leasing, or other disposition under the public land laws, including, but not limited to, withdrawal from location, entry, and patent under mining laws, and from disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing.

Management of the National Monument

The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the monument through the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, pursuant to applicable legal authorities, to implement the purposes of this proclamation. The National Park Service shall generally administer the national monument, except that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shall administer the portions of the national monument that are within a national wildlife refuge. The National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may prepare an agreement to share, consistent with applicable laws, whatever resources are necessary to properly manage the monument.

For the purposes of preserving, interpreting, and enhancing public understanding and appreciation of the national monument and the broader story of World War II in the Pacific, the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall prepare a management plan within 3 years of the date of this proclamation.

The Secretary of the Interior shall have management responsibility for the monument sites and facilities in Hawaii within the boundaries designated on the accompanying maps to this proclamation, including the responsibility to maintain and repair the Chief Petty Officer Bungalows and other monument facilities. The Department of Defense may retain the authority to control access to those sites. The Department of the Interior through the National Park Service and the Department of the Navy may execute an agreement to provide for the operational needs and responsibilities of each Department in implementing this proclamation.

Armed Forces Actions

1. The prohibitions required by this proclamation shall not restrict activities and exercises of the Armed Forces (including those carried out by the United States Coast Guard).

2. All activities and exercises of the Armed Forces shall be carried out in a manner that avoids, to the extent practicable and consistent with operational requirements, adverse impacts on monument resources and qualities.

3. In the event of threatened or actual destruction of, loss of, or injury to a monument resource or quality resulting from an incident, including but not limited to spills and groundings, caused by a component of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, the cognizant component shall promptly coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior for the purpose of taking appropriate actions to respond to and mitigate the harm and, if possible, restore or replace the monument resource or quality.

4. Nothing in this proclamation or any regulation implementing it shall limit or otherwise affect the Armed Forces’ discretion to use, maintain, improve, or manage any real property under the administrative control of a Military Department or otherwise limit the availability of such real property for military mission purposes.

The establishment of this monument is subject to valid existing rights. Nothing in this proclamation shall be deemed to revoke any existing withdrawal, reservation, or appropriation; however, the national monument shall be the dominant reservation.
Nothing in this proclamation shall alter the authority of any Federal agency to take action in the monument area where otherwise authorized under applicable legal authorities, except as provided by this proclamation.

Warning is hereby given to all unauthorized persons not to appropriate, injure, destroy, or remove any feature of this monument and not to locate or settle upon any lands thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

[Signature]
Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act
Public Law 96-487 (94 Stat. 2371)
December 2, 1980
(selected excerpts)

An Act

To provide for the designation and conservation of certain public lands in the State of Alaska, including the designation of units of the National Park, National [H.R. 39] Wildlife Refuge, National Forest, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Wilderness Preservation Systems, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the “Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act”.

* * * * *

TITLE III — NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

ADDITIONS TO EXISTING REFUGES

Sec. 303. The following areas, consisting of existing refuges and the additions made thereto, are established or redesignated as units of the National Wildlife Refuge System:

(1) Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge—(A) The Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge shall consist of eleven existing refuges, including all lands (including submerged lands), waters and interests therein which were a part of such refuges and are hereby redesignated as subunits of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge; approximately four hundred and sixty thousand acres of additional public lands on islands, islets, rocks, reefs, spires and designated capes and headlands in the coastal areas and adjacent seas of Alaska, and an undetermined quantity of submerged lands, if any, retained in Federal ownership at the time of statehood around Kodiak and Afognak Islands, as generally depicted on the map entitled “Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge”, dated October 1979, including the—

(iii) Aleutian Islands Unit—including the existing Aleutian Islands and Bogoslof National Wildlife Refuges, and all other public lands in the Aleutian Islands;

Sec. 303 (B) The purposes for which the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge is established and shall be managed include—

(i) to conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity including, but not limited to marine mammals, marine birds and other migratory birds, the marine resources upon which they rely, bears, caribou and other mammals;

(ii) to fulfill the international treaty obligations of the United States with respect to fish and wildlife and their habitats;

(iii) to provide, in a manner consistent with the purposes set forth in subparagraphs (i) and (ii), the opportunity for continued subsistence uses by local residents;

(iv) to provide, in a manner consistent with subparagraphs (i) and (ii), a program of national and international scientific research on marine resources; and

(v) to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable and in a manner consistent with the purposes set forth in subparagraph (i), water quality and necessary water quantity within the refuge.

* * * * *
TITLE VII – NATIONAL WILDERNESS PRESERVATION SYSTEM

DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS WITHIN THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

Sec. 702. In accordance with subsection 3(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 892), the public lands within the boundaries depicted as "Proposed Wilderness" on the maps referred to in §302 and §303 of this Act or the maps specified below are hereby designated as wilderness, with the nomenclature and approximate acreage as indicated below:

1. Aleutian Islands Wilderness of approximately one million three hundred thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Aleutian Islands Wilderness", dated October 1978;

2. Andreafsky Wilderness of approximately one million three hundred thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge" dated April 1980;

3. Arctic Wildlife Refuge Wilderness of approximately eight million acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Arctic National Wildlife Refuge" dated August 1980;

4. Becharof Wilderness of approximately four hundred thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Becharof National Wildlife Refuge" dated July 1980;

5. Innoko Wilderness of approximately one million two hundred and forty thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Innoko National Wildlife Refuge", dated October 1978;

6. Izembek Wilderness of approximately three hundred thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Izembek Wilderness", dated October 1978;

7. Kenai Wilderness of approximately one million three hundred and fifty thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Kenai National Wildlife Refuge", dated October 1978;

8. Koyukuk Wilderness of approximately four hundred thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge", dated 1980;


10. Togiak Wilderness of approximately two million two hundred and seventy thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Togiak National Wildlife Refuge", dated July 1980;

11. Semidi Wilderness of approximately two hundred and fifty thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Semidi Wilderness", dated October 1978;

12. Selawik Wilderness of approximately two hundred and forty thousand acres as generally depicted on a map entitled "Selawik Wildlife Refuge", dated July 1980; and

13. Unimak Wilderness of approximately nine hundred and ten thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Unimak Wilderness", dated October 1978.

* * * * * *
Executive Order 1733

It is hereby ordered that all islands of the Aleutian chain, Alaska, including Unimak and Sanak Islands on the east, and extending to and including Attu Island on the west, be and the same are hereby reserved and set apart as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and fur bearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries. Jurisdiction over the wild birds and game and the propagation of reindeer and fur bearing animals is hereby placed with the Department of Agriculture, and jurisdiction over the fisheries, seals, sea otter, cetaceans and other aquatic species, is placed with the Department of Commerce and Labor.

It is unlawful for any person to kill any otter, mink, marten, sable or fur seal, or other fur bearing animal within the limits of Alaska Territory, except under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Commerce and Labor; and it is unlawful for any person to kill any game animals or birds in Alaska or ship such animals or birds out of Alaska except under the provisions of law and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Within the limits of this reservation it is unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, capture, willfully disturb, or kill any bird of any kind whatever, or take the eggs of any such bird, except under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Warning is expressly given to all persons not to commit any of the acts herein enumerated and which are prohibited by law.

The establishment of this reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for lighthouse, military, or naval purposes, or with the extension of the works of the bureau of Education on Unalaska and Atka Islands.

This reservation is to be known as the Aleutian Islands Reservation.

Signed William H. Taft
March 3, 1913
[No 1733]
Hand salute. We have no information about the circumstances surrounding this image captured by Leo Halter, a serviceman stationed on Attu Island (circa 1943–44), but we would like to extend the salute to all who served with valor in the Pacific during World War II. Leo Halter Collection/USFWS.
As the nation’s principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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