



JUNIOR RANGER

ACTIVITY BOOKLET



"Preflight Briefing" by Paul Goranson.
Image courtesy Canadian Armed Forces Collection



Welcome to the Aleutian World War II National Historic Area!

The Ounalashka Corporation and the National Park Service work together to share the history of the Unangan (the Aleut people) and the defense of the Aleutian Islands and the United States during World War II. The Aleutian World War II National Historic Area and Visitor Center in Dutch Harbor, Alaska tell these compelling stories and preserve historic Fort Schwatka on Mount Ballyhoo. Additionally, National Historic Landmarks on Attu, Kiska, and *Atka* Islands within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge have recently been included in the new World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.

Explore, Learn, Protect: Be a Junior Ranger!

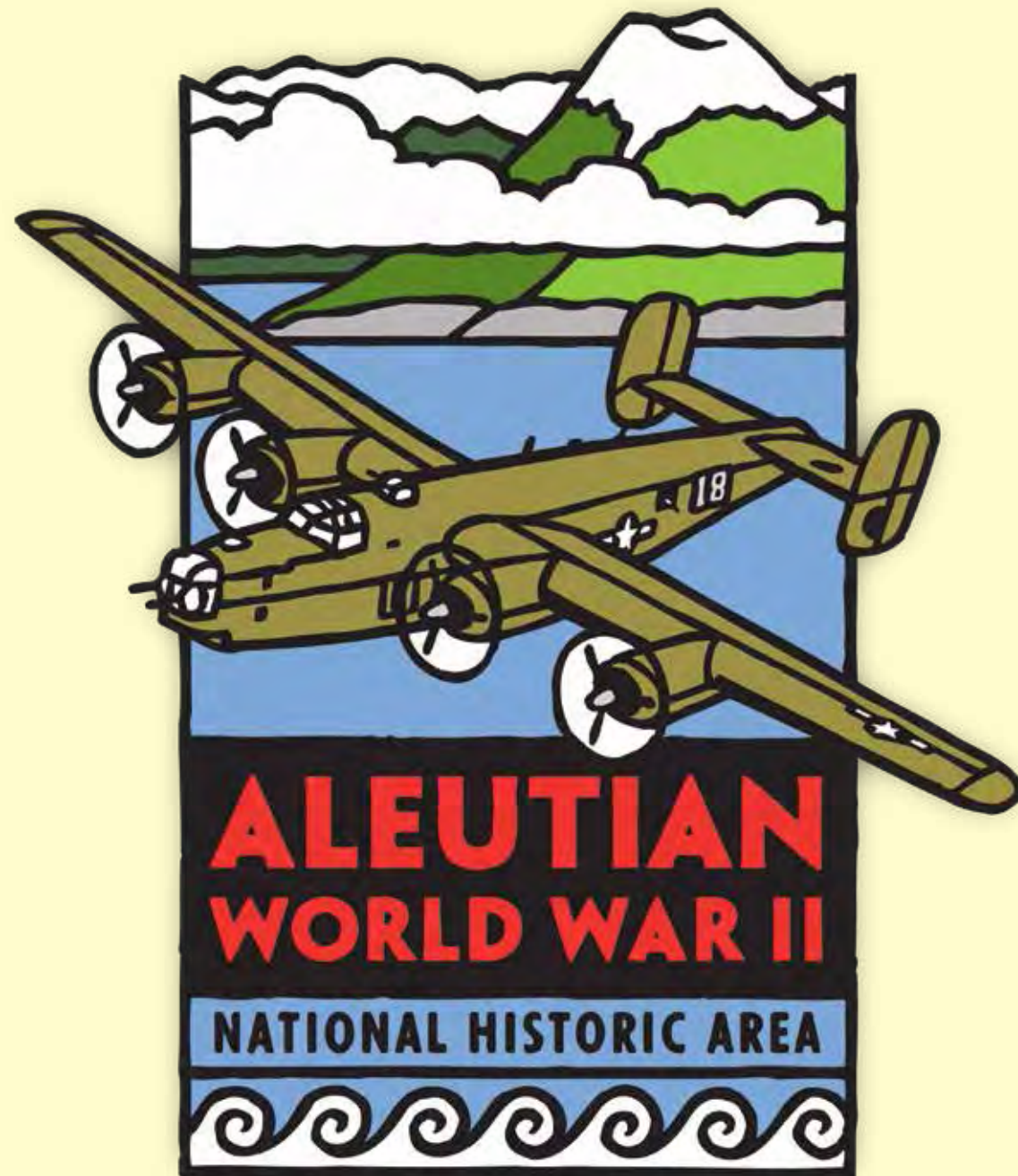
Note: this booklet was developed for middle school-aged youth. Some of the events and stories may be upsetting. Please talk to your parents or teachers about your feelings.

Being a Junior Ranger is a special privilege and an honor. As a Junior Ranger, you:

- Take care of and explore the Aleutian World War II National Historic Area and learn more about its history.
- Share what you have learned with family and friends.

To become a Junior Ranger, you:

- Complete as many activities in this book as you can.
- Visit World War II sites in Unalaska or your community.
- Bring this booklet to the World War II Visitor Center to receive your badge. If you cannot make it to the Visitor Center, please contact the Ounalashka Corporation at 907-581-1276 or info@ounalashka.com.



YOUR NAME _____

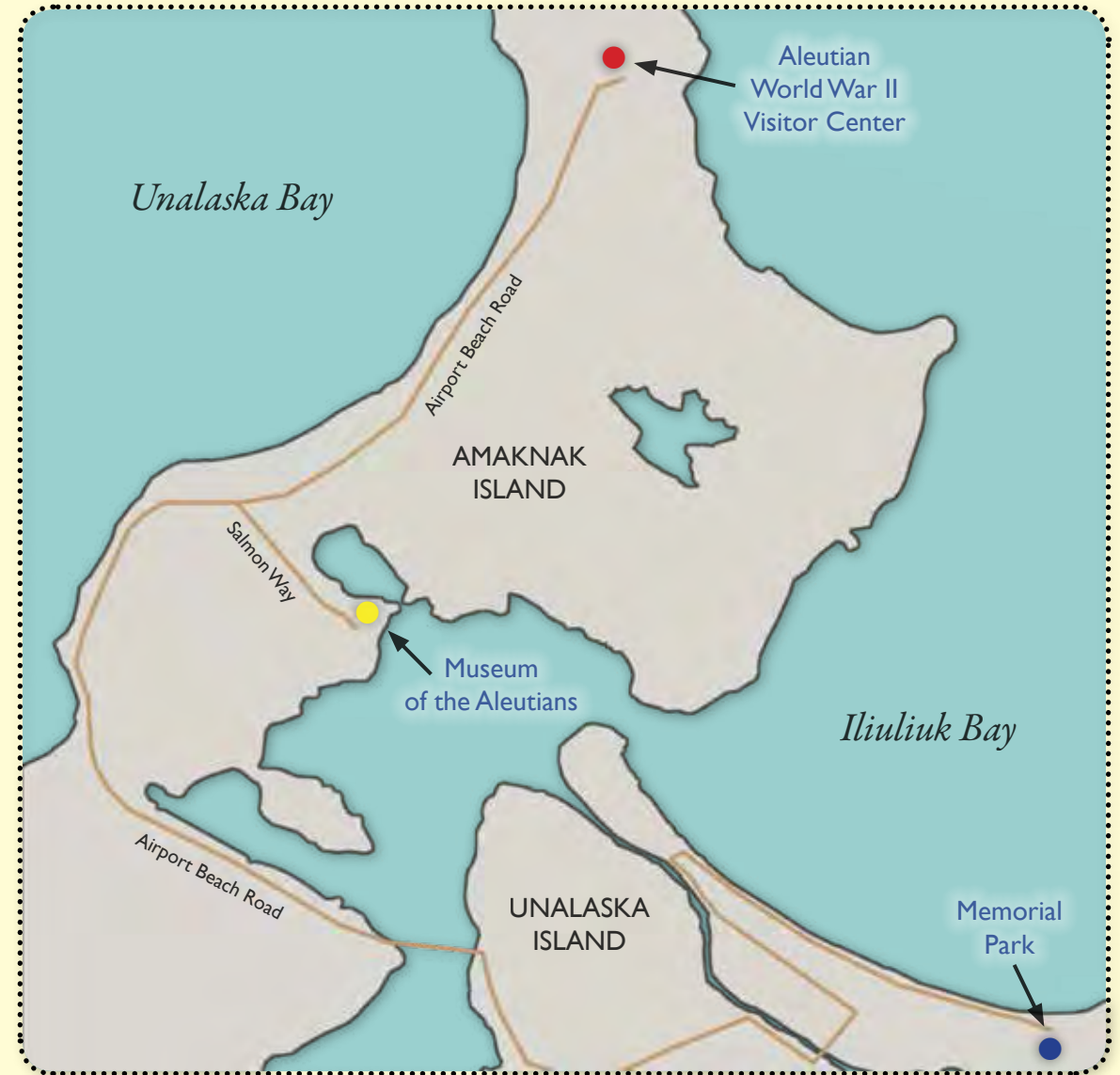
Getting Started

There sure are a lot of things to see around **Dutch Harbor/Unalaska**, and other parts of the Aleutians! Each activity page in this book shows one or more of the colored circles below. These circles help you find places in Dutch Harbor and Unalaska to visit where the stories of World War II come alive.

Activity	Activity Number	WWII Visitor Center	Museum of the Aleutians	Memorial Park
<i>Mapping the Story</i>	1	●	●	●
<i>Sea Lion Subsistence</i>	2		●	
<i>Floating through History</i>	3		●	
<i>Rat Attack</i>	4		●	
<i>War on American Soil</i>	5	●	●	
<i>Dead-Reckoning</i>	6	●		
<i>Cryptographic Clues</i>	7	●		
<i>Pack Your Bags</i>	8	●		
<i>Diversity</i>	9	●		
<i>Tremendous Trees</i>	10			●
<i>Windblown and Dripping</i>	11			●
<i>A Walk through Time</i>	12	●	●	●
<i>History at Your Feet</i>	13	●	●	●

“...I lived for nine years at the corner of 53rd Street and Lexington Avenue in New York City and it wasn’t half so noisy as outside my tent on Amchitka.”

– Lieutenant Allen Prescott, Navy aviation officer



Pick up a detailed driving guide at the Museum of the Aleutians. Just ask for *View to the Past: A Driving Guide to World War II Buildings and Structures on Amaknak Island and Unalaska Island*. There’s lots to learn by following the roads. Look for interpretive signs that tell you about World War II buildings and events along the way.

1 Mapping the Story



The Japanese Kurile Islands are only:
A: 6000 miles; B: 1500 miles; C: 650 miles; or D: 20 miles
from Attu Island in the Aleutian Chain? See answer below.



Where does the Aleutian World War II story take place? Throughout this booklet, important Aleutian World War II place names are hidden, marked with *stars*. Color in the circle on this map for each place name as you find it. Hint: try finding places you may know first, like *Anchorage* and *Juneau*. Then find *Sitka*, *Seward*, and *Kodiak* where you can visit other historic World War II sites.

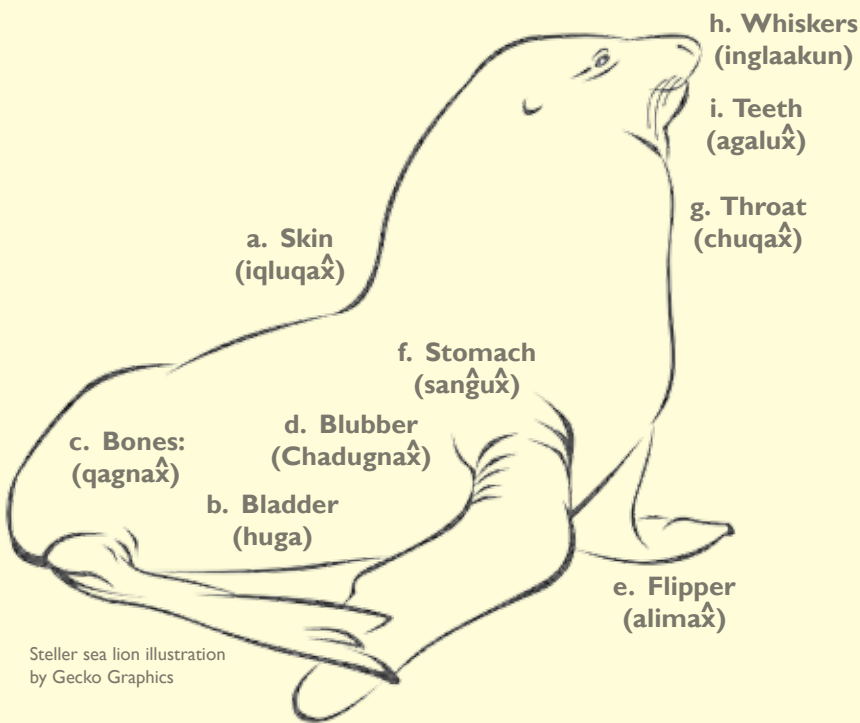


Answer: C: 650 miles
Anchorage to Juneau is 600 miles.

2 Sea Lion (Qawaḵ) Subsistence

For generations, the Unangan relied on marine mammals swimming near their homes in the Aleutian Islands. They use these sea mammals for making tools, clothing, jewelry, and for food. Historically, the men hunted for Steller sea lions while the women made clothing, like the *kamleika* (rain coat), from sea lion parts. You can see a beautiful example of one of these raincoats at the Museum of the Aleutians. The Unangan treat the sea lion with respect and used every part of the animal. Nothing went to waste.

In the drawing below, match the different parts of the sea lion with the Unangan word for what they were used. Each part of the sea lion can be used more than once.



Steller sea lion illustration by Gecko Graphics

1. ___ rain jacket
2. ___ shoe soles
3. ___ hat decorations
4. ___ dip for dried fish
5. ___ sewing needles
6. ___ storage bags
7. ___ earrings
8. ___ games
9. ___ carvings
10. ___ lamp oil
11. ___ baskets
12. ___ buoys
13. ___ rattles
14. ___ blankets
15. ___ kayak (Iqyan) covers

CAN YOU FIND OTHER EXAMPLES OF HOW SEA MAMMAL PARTS WERE USED BY THE UNANGAN IN THE MUSEUM OF THE ALEUTIANS?

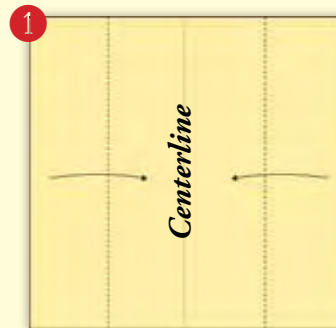


Women use plants as natural medicines. During World War II, the Unangan were relocated to forested areas of southeast Alaska. The plants they normally used as medicines do not grow in southeast Alaska forests, and they were unable to treat common sicknesses in the camps.

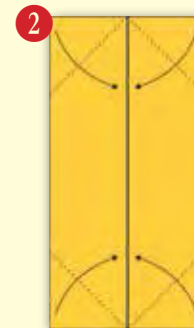
3 Floating through History

Boats have an important history in the Aleutian Islands. The Unangan used kayaks (*iqyan*) to hunt and travel between islands. In June of 1942, the USS *Delarof* (a large transport ship) took hundreds of Unangan from their homes to southeast Alaska. It had to zigzag through rough seas to avoid Japanese submarines lurking below.

Try making your own kayak (*iqyaḵ*) from a **SQUARE SHEET** of paper using these instructions. You will need to imagine the dotted "fold" lines shown below on your paper.



1 First, fold a square sheet of paper in half to mark the centerline. Then fold in the sides to meet the centerline as shown by arrows. Your square piece of paper is now a rectangle.



2 Next, fold the four corners of the rectangle toward the centerline as shown by arrows.



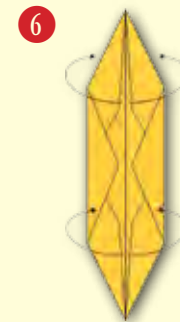
3 Again fold the top two corners toward the centerline as shown by the arrows. Come close to the centerline, but do not touch it.



4 Now fold the bottom two corners to the centerline. Again come close to the centerline, but do not touch it. Your piece of paper should now look like a diamond.



5 Next fold the sides of the diamond to the centerline. See dotted lines for fold marks.



6 This last step can be tricky. Grab the folded triangles carefully and slowly turn the boat inside out.



7 Your boat should look like this. Does it float?

"Everybody onboard [the *Delarof*] from Unalaska was at the railing, you know, just saying goodbye to home and hoping to be back soon. And my father had come out and my mother had held me up to the railing so I could say goodbye."
– Harriet Hope of Unalaska

Rat Attack

Ships carried soldiers and supplies to the Aleutian Islands during World War II. They also carried a dangerous stowaway – RATS! Rats eat chicks and eggs of seabirds (and sometimes even adult birds). Examples of these seabirds are found in the entrance to the Museum of the Aleutians. Although war with Japan ended in the Aleutians decades ago, rats are still waging battle against nesting seabirds.

Let's say that during World War II, one pregnant rat was accidentally brought to *Kiska* Island. One rat may not seem like a big deal, but the illustration below shows how one pregnant rat can multiply to over 60 rats in just 4 months. In one year, a pregnant rat and her pups can produce 6000 rats!

August 15, 1943
A pregnant rat arrives in Kiska.



Rat illustration by Gecko Graphics

September 15, 1943
The rat gives birth to 10 pups.



December 15, 1943
The rat's daughters give birth to about 50 of their own pups, for a total of about 60 rats.



Biologists have dug out a rat family's nest containing 22 dead Least Auklets, birds known locally as *choochkies*. An average of 10 rats lives in a nest.

If by August 15, 1944 the pregnant rat and her offspring produced 6000 rats, how many auklets did they eat on Kiska in that year? Do math below:

Imagine how many birds have been eaten by rats on these islands since World War II!

Rats aren't the only World War II problem left in the Aleutian Islands. Bombs and ammunition (also called ordnance) that did not explode are still dangerous hazards. Also left behind were barrels of oil and leaking batteries that can pollute the islands.



5 War on American Soil

“Alaska was the nation’s military stepchild. Even after Pearl Harbor, our so publicized naval stronghold Dutch Harbor did not have one protecting airfield within 800 miles, not one. The [Japanese] knew this.”

– Major General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr.

On June 2, 1942, aircraft from the Japanese aircraft carriers *Ryujo* and *Junyo* bombed Unalaska. On June 7, Japanese troops invaded the Aleutian islands of *Attu* and Kiska. This was the only time any U.S. homeland was occupied during World War II. The Japanese imprisoned a Kiska weather team and the residents of Attu. These Japanese attacks are memorable for those who fought the war. The Aleutian Island battles are full of stories, stories of terror, and stories of heroism.

The U.S. has fought in many wars before and since World War II. How does your family remember war? Ask an older family member these questions about war in their lifetime. Write their answers on the following page.

1. What war do you remember most?
2. When and where did this war happen?
3. What is one story you can tell me about this war?

“On the second run, the Japanese planes came over the town around 6 p.m. and dropped a bomb on the old hospital, and went across the bay, and bombed the tanks in Dutch Harbor. The tanks burned for four days and five nights. The smoke was so thick, it was like nighttime here in Unalaska. During this time, the women and children were kept in newly built bomb shelters around Unalaska.”

– Anfesia Shapsnikoff of Unalaska



Model airplane of Japanese Zero fighter by Jeff Dickrell, courtesy Aleutian World War II Visitor Center. Photograph courtesy Archgraphics.

Below: Japanese WWII map of Aleutians, courtesy MOA.



“Akutan Zero.”

WAR ON AMERICAN SOIL

Only one Japanese airplane was shot down by American antiaircraft during the bombing of Dutch Harbor. This famous airplane is known as the... (Search this page for answer)

1. WHAT WAR DO YOU REMEMBER MOST?

2. WHEN AND WHERE DID THIS WAR HAPPEN?

3. WHAT IS ONE STORY YOU CAN TELL ME ABOUT THIS WAR?

6 Dead - Reckoning ●

The Japanese captured Kiska Island on June 7, 1942. To force them to leave, U.S. planes dropped seven million pounds of bombs on the island. The weather is very stormy in the Aleutians, the islands often hidden by fog. It is like flying through soup. Pilots navigated by “dead-reckoning.” They guessed their location by using compass readings and air speed. They also used the 4,000 foot-tall Kiska Volcano as a landmark since it was often the only peak above the heavy fog. After seeing this volcano, pilots knew where to find their targets. They would drop their bombs and head back home. The Aerology Building (now the World War II Visitor Center) was where radiomen helped to guide the pilots safely back to the Dutch Harbor base.

Help the pilot return to Dutch Harbor safely in the maze below. Watch out for volcanoes, Japanese fighters, and overall stormy weather!

START



Maze photographs courtesy MOA, National Archives, Archgraphics.

END

“Oh you know, I reckon I’ll get us back or I reckon we’ll be dead.”
– Navigator’s quip on the phrase “dead-reckoning”

7 Cryptographic Clues

Communication during war time is very difficult. Soldiers in the Aleutians rose eagerly at three in the morning for mail call, hoping to find “sugar” letters – love letters from girlfriends and wives sent months before. Military messages needed to travel much faster. Morse code was a way to do this. Messages were encrypted and tapped into a machine by both American and Japanese troops. A Morse code key, or “bug,” can be seen upstairs in the World War II Visitor Center.

Below are two words used by Japanese and American troops during World War II and their meanings. Use the Morse code chart to translate the message.

Morse Code Chart

A	.-	N	-.
B	...-	O	---
C	-. -.	P	-. -.
D	.- -.	Q	-. -.
E	.	R	.- -.
F	..-.	S	...
G	-. -.	T	-
H	U	..-
I	..	V	...-
J	.-.	W	-. -.
K	.- -.	X	-. -.
L	.-. -.	Y	-. -.
M	--	Z	-. -.

Japanese word: **-. -. -. -. -. -. -.**

Hint: The American fight for Attu in May of 1943 was the second bloodiest World War II battle in the Pacific. Near the end of the battle, the Japanese had less than 800 men left to fight against 14,000 Americans. Rather than surrender, most Japanese troops chose to fight to the death.

What did the Japanese call this type of attack?

American word: **-. -. -. -. -. -. -. -.**

Hint: Aleutian winds, which blow up to 100 miles per hour like hurricanes, made life very difficult for American soldiers.

What did they call these winds?

MAKE UP YOUR OWN CODED MESSAGE, AND HAVE A FRIEND SOLVE IT.

Navajo “codetalkers” used their language to encrypt messages for the U.S. military during World War II. Navajo words for “chicken hawk,” “hummingbird,” and “iron fish,” became the codes for “dive bomber,” “fighter plane,” and “submarine.” Navajo language codes were never broken during World War II.



Morse code transmitting key, courtesy Aleu. Photograph by Archgraphics

8 Pack Your Bag

In June 1942, the U.S. government forced the Unangan to evacuate their homes and board a ship. They did not know where they were going or how long they’d be gone. Arriving in southeast Alaska, they were crowded into abandoned canneries and a former mining camp. The camps were falling apart, and had no plumbing, electricity, or toilets.

Imagine you too have to leave your home to go to a strange place for an unknown period for time. You can only pack one suitcase the size of your backpack or the suitcase downstairs in the World War II Visitor’s Center. What would you take with you?

“Each family, according to its size, packed a suitcase and a trunk. We couldn’t take a favorite toy, book, or game. Only clothing. My mom couldn’t even take her favorite pot or teakettle... They didn’t even allow us to take our icons or holy lamps.”
– Phil Tutiaikoff of Unalaska



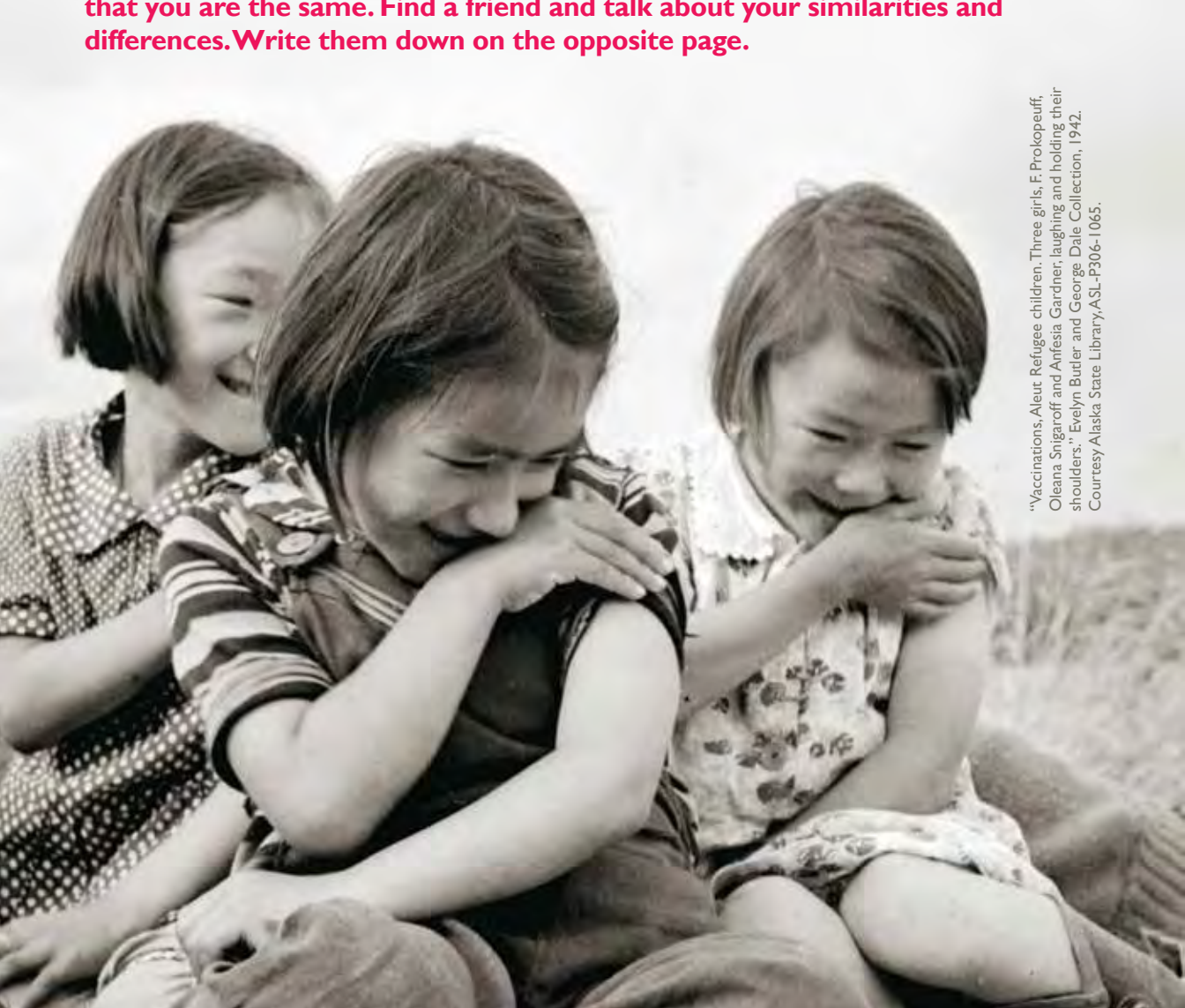
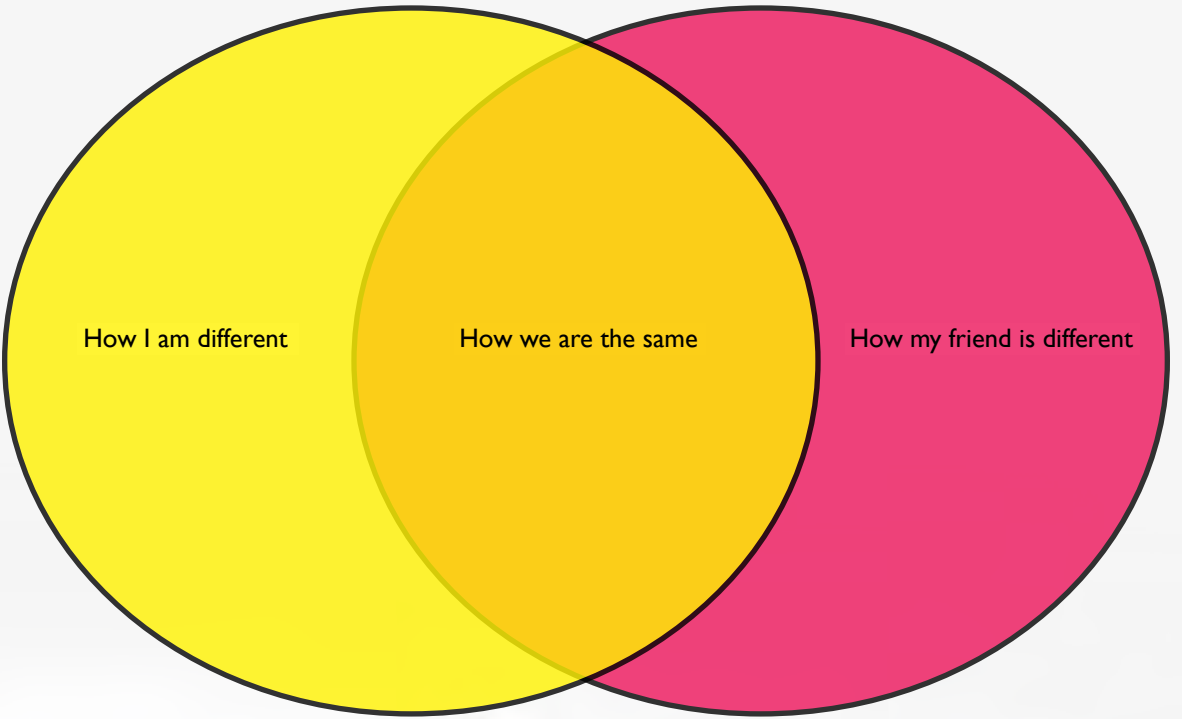
Painting of Attu Village by Henry Elliot, 1880. Courtesy Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center.



9 Diversity

After Japan captured Attu and Kiska islands and bombed Dutch Harbor, the U.S. military evacuated all residents of the Aleutians. Everyone who was 1/8 or more Unangan was forced to leave their homes and move to relocation camps in southeast Alaska for three years. The government allowed non-Native residents of the Aleutians to make their own choices about where they would go. How does it make you feel to learn that these American citizens were treated differently because of their race?

Think about the ways that you are different from other people and the ways that you are the same. Find a friend and talk about your similarities and differences. Write them down on the opposite page.



“Vaccinations, Aleut Refugee children. Three girls, F. Prokopeuff, Oleana Snigaroff and Anfasia Gardner, laughing and holding their shoulders.” Evelyn Butler and George Dale Collection, 1942. Courtesy Alaska State Library, ASL-P306-1065.



“In 1942, [we] were whipped away from our home – like dogs. All our possessions were left... for mother nature to destroy... I tried to pretend it was really a dream and this could not happen to me and my dear family.”
– Bill Tcheripanoff Sr. of *Akutan*

“Pilot, sailor, and two Unangan boys on tundra.” H. Marion Thornton Collection, courtesy Alaska State Library, ASL-P338-0172.

10 Tremendous Trees ●

During World War II, the U.S. government forced the Unangan to leave the naturally treeless island homes they had known their entire lives. For years, they would live in old buildings surrounded by thick, dark forest in southeast Alaska. In contrast, many U.S. soldiers stationed in the Aleutian Islands had never lived on islands or in places without trees. In 1944, an Air Force general ordered the planting of thousands of trees in the Aleutians to raise soldiers' spirits. Both soldiers and the Unangan had strong feelings about trees based on what they knew before the war. Have you ever been away from your home? Write a postcard, and describe what you might miss.



“*Funter Bay* looked lovely when we first saw it, with its flowers and trees. Most of us had never seen trees before. But the houses [at the internment camp] were no good...We were dreadfully homesick. We didn't like the trees. They were in our way everywhere...at [home] we used to go on hikes, but at Funter Bay we couldn't go walking because the trees were in the way.”
Alice Tutiakoff of *St. George Island*

Illustration of southeast Alaska forest by Gecko Graphics



Interior of Funter Bay barracks. Photograph courtesy Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association and the National Archives.

“When I came back to the island, it seemed bald, with no branches or trees. It was still wonderful. It was a happy time, coming back home again.”
– Anatoly Lekanof, St. George Island



Village of St. George, summer 2004.
Photograph courtesy Rodney W. Lekanof.

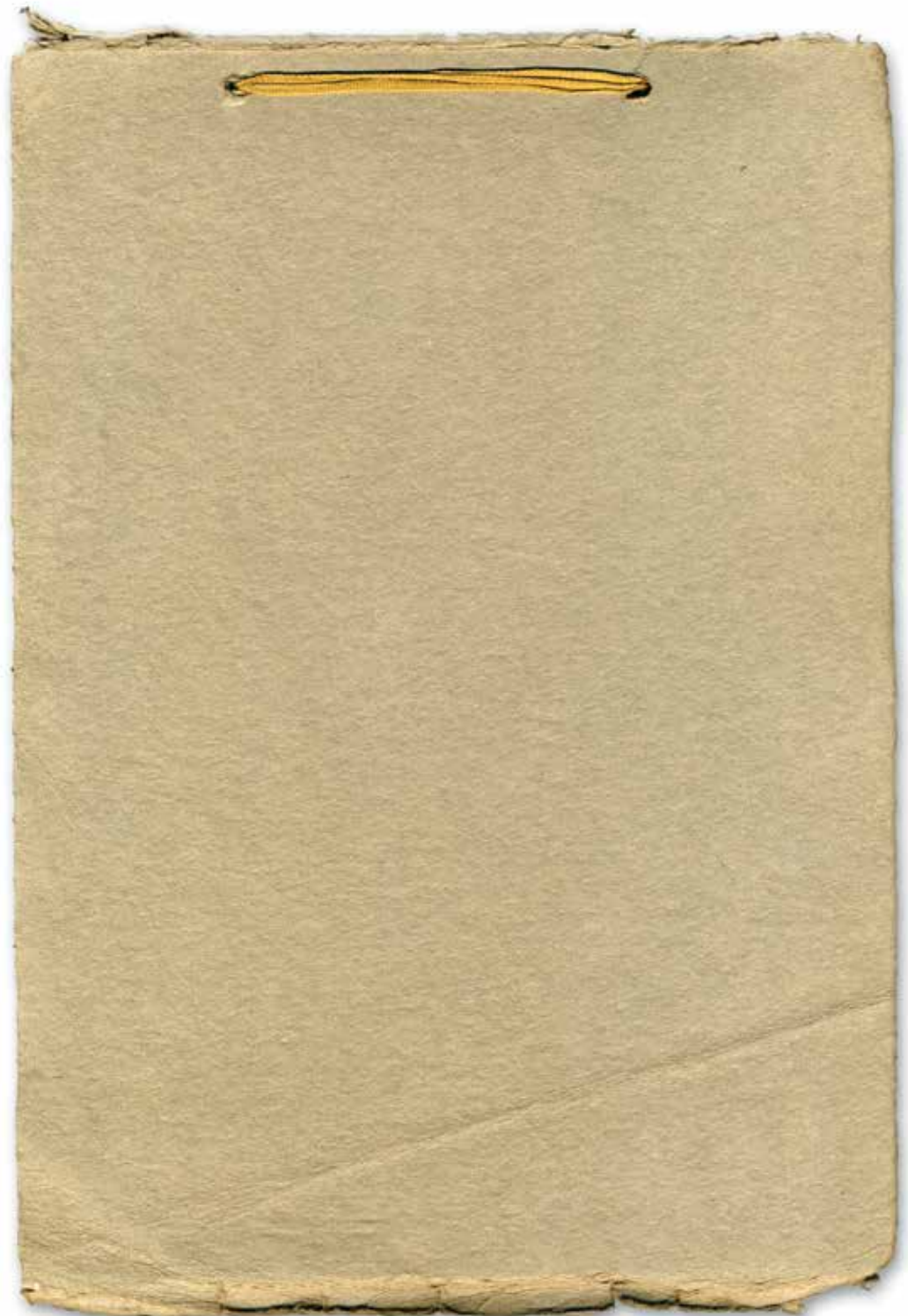
11 Windblown and Dripping ●

American soldiers fighting in the Aleutian Islands were not ready for the weather. Many of them were trained for the hot deserts of North Africa. Instead, they ended up in Alaska facing constant wind, heavy fog, and cold during the war. Soldiers learned to laugh about their discomforts. Some soldiers drew cartoons to help themselves get through each day. You can see many comics about the weather at the World War II Visitor's Center. Try drawing your own cartoon about an experience you've had with weather, like a rocky boat ride or a long, wet walk, that you can now laugh at. Use the old sketch pad to the right.



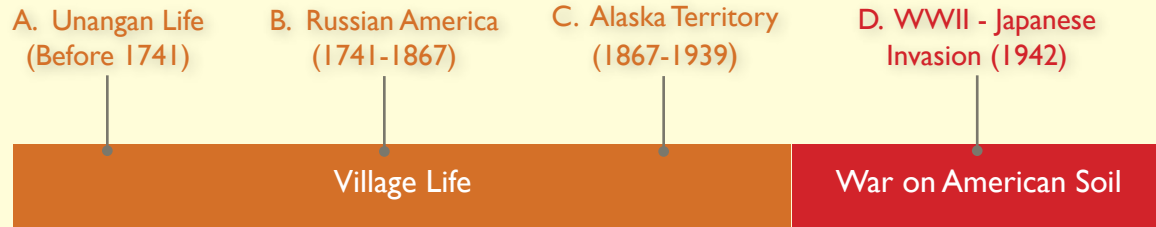
Cartoons by Don Miller, an African-American artist who served in the Aleutians during WWII. From the publication *Wind Blown and Dripping*, 1945. Courtesy Z. J. Loussac Public Library, Alaska Collection.

**"There was a gauge to measure the wind, but it only measured up to 110 miles an hour, and this was not always enough."
— Corporal Dashiell Hammett (a famous writer)**



12 A Walk through Time ●●●

The Aleutian Islands have a very long history. People have been living here for over 9,000 years! In the World War II Visitor Center, the mural on the first floor will help you match



1. ____
 “When we found our homes in that condition it must have been sad for my mom and dad, our parents, and how my mom checked her... footlocker full of cleaned – washed, ironed and starched – doilies, tablecloths and stuff like this was empty. This huge footlocker – huge one – how these troops must have been happy to mail to their homes to their loved ones beautiful handmade doilies made by crocheting needles and ivory carvings – you name it – anywhere from antique icons and priceless things... things that cannot be replaced even with money today... all gone.”

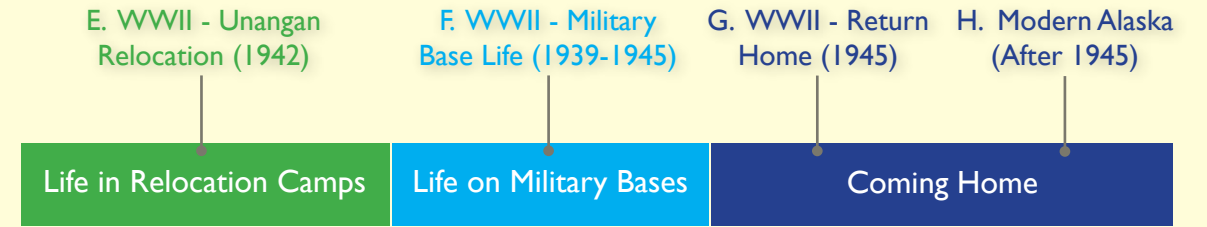
2. ____
 “The school was called Government School. ...I know some big kids that came from some other village would come here and go to school. They wouldn’t know English. All they’d know was Aleut so they had to get a late start... Every so often a Russian word comes into my mind; I don’t know where it came from but there it is. Probably when I was a little kid I heard people talking Russian and Aleut and those words stuck in my mind but I never used them, but they’re still there.”

3. ____
 “We camouflaged the old positions with camouflage netting and placed telephone poles in place of the guns. The move saved the lives of a number of our men the next day as some of these positions took direct hits from Japanese dive bombers and heavy strafing from [Japanese] Zero fighters.”

4. ____
 “World War II was a traumatic experience for Aleut people. They have lived with that experience and those memories for a long time. And now’s the time to rebuild and replace some of those things that were lost.”



these quotes associated with the Aleutian Islands to their historical time. Write the letter of the correct time period next to the number of the quote.



5. ____
 “Whenever the Aleuts [Unangan] hunt, they hunt in a two-hatch baidarka. The man who prepares for hunting first makes his hunting gear... When the baidarkas go out to hunt, they paddle a certain distance between them. They paddle until they see a sea otter and then form a circle and wait for it to come up.”

6. ____
 “They come to the islands, clean-shaven and boyish, but the dark, rain-heavy sky, the numbing isolation of the place, wears them down quick. Their eyes glaze, their faces grow haggard and lined. For most, there is no rotation home. Tired, ill-supplied, ill-fed, they live on their nerves. And some of them crack. The ones from the sunny places have it rough. They miss the light; the hot, yellow sunshine. Some are sent home sedated, knotted tight in a straitjacket, their eyes fixed in ‘the Aleutian Stare.’”

7. ____
 “We lived in an old herring cannery [in *Killisnoo*] and those buildings were never meant for winter. We had to boil our water. We were left to gather our own food. There were no boats to fish. We were just dumped off with the clothes on our backs.”

8. ____
 “Why do the Aleuts [Unangan] possess such [an enduring] character? It is clear that a great and direct influence is exerted upon their character by the harsh and cold climate, the natural poverty of the islands they inhabit, and the kind of upbringing they receive. Even the most impatient of the Europeans, living in the Aleutian Islands in the present circumstances, would inevitably, although not completely, become patient and enduring as did the Aleuts.”



13 History at Your Feet ●

All over the Aleutian Islands today are artifacts left from World War II. Artifacts are objects from the past that tell us stories. During World War II, Japanese and American soldiers built docks for ships, runways for planes, and bunkers for troops. Some buildings still have kitchen stoves, electrical outlets, and even wagons in them. The artifacts let us be modern-day detectives discovering the secrets of history. Unfortunately, soldiers also took things from and destroyed Unangan homes during the war.

Today, some people still leave their mark on these historic places by taking historic items, littering, and writing on the walls. This disturbs our historic stories and hurts those who suffered during the war and those who come after us. When visiting historic sites, please leave what you find and pack out your trash.

In the quonset hut drawing below, circle the historic objects (artifacts) and cross out the trash (modern day items).



U.S. Army boots



Soda can

Graffiti/tagging



WWII Bayonet (Please don't touch. Many WWII objects can be dangerous. If you find an artifact such as this, contact a Ranger!)



WWII entrenching tool (shovel)



WWII Fire extinguisher



"Boombox"



French fries

All illustrations courtesy Gecko Graphics.



WWII Antipersonnel stake (Please be careful. These stakes can poke you in the foot. If you find an artifact such as this, contact a Ranger!)

Soccer ball



EXPLORE, LEARN, PROTECT

Learn more!

Learn more about the Aleutian World War II experiences by checking out the following websites and books:

www.alaskamaritime.fws.gov

Aleutian Sparrow by Karen Hesse

www.nps.gov/aleu

www.ounalashka.com

The Wind is Not a River by Arnold A. Griese

Learn more about other World War II experiences by checking out the following websites:

www.nps.gov/manz

www.nps.gov/usar

www.nps.gov/wwii

www.nps.gov/miin

www.nps.gov/rori

www.nps.gov/vapa

Many National Park Service sites have Junior Ranger activities. We hope that you will continue to explore and learn about our special places. You can also become a Web Ranger at: www.nps.gov/webrangers/.

Acknowledgements

This project was a collaboration between the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ounalashka Corporation, Museum of the Aleutians, City of Unalaska Parks and Recreation, and the Qawalangin Tribe. Special thanks to Jeff Dickrell, Moses Dirks, and Steve Gregory. Writing and design by Emily Beltramo (Student Conservation Association, Junior Ranger Ambassador), Lisa Matlock (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), and Jenni Burr (National Park Service).

Answers

1 Mapping the Story:

A. Attu; B. Kiska; C. Atka; D. Dutch Harbor/Unalaska; E. St. Paul; F. St. George G. Kodiak; H. Seward; I. Anchorage; J. Funter Bay; K. Juneau; L. Killisnoo; M. Sitka

2 Sea Lion Subsistence:

1. f; 2. a, e; 3. c, h, i; 4. d; 5. c, h; 6. a, b, f; 7. c, h, i; 8. a, c; 9. c, i; 10. d; 11. a, g; 12. f; 13. b, g; 14. l; 15. a

4 Rat Attack:

$6000 \text{ rats} \div 10 \text{ rats in a nest} = 600 \text{ rat nests}$

$600 \text{ rat nests} \times 22 \text{ dead birds in a nest} = 13,200 \text{ dead birds killed by the rats in that year}$

7 Cryptographic Clues:

Japanese word = *banzai*; American word = *williwaw*

12 A Walk Through Time:

1.G (Anatoly Lekanof, *Rasmussen Oral History Collection*), 2.C (Henry Swanson, *The Unknown Islands*), 3.D, 4.H (Jake Lestenkof, *The Aleut Story*), 5.A (*Aleut Tales and Narratives*), 6.F (*Aleutian Solution*, Aleutian World War II Visitor Center) 7.E (Nadesta Golley, *When the Wind Was a River*), 8.B (Ivan Veniaminov, *Notes on the Islands of the Unalaska District*)



Congratulations!

This certifies that _____
is now a **Junior Ranger**
for the **Aleutian World War II National Historic Area**

on this _____ day of _____, 20____.

As a Junior Ranger, I promise to explore, learn about, and
protect the Aleutian World War II National Historic Area, other
National Parks,
and all special places.