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Chapter 1 : Aleutian Islands, Alaska, USA | Awards | LibraryThing

*A chronological history of the discovery of the Aleutian Islands: Or, The exploits of Russian merchants: with a supplement of historical data on the (Materials for the study of Alaska history) [Vasilii Nikolaevich Berkh] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

The largest of those is Unimak Island, with an area of 1, This change of direction corresponds to a curve in the line of volcanic fissures that have contributed their products to the building of the islands. Such curved chains are repeated about the Pacific Ocean in the Kuril Islands , the Japanese chain, and in the Philippines. All these island arcs are at the edge of the Pacific Plate and experience much seismic activity, but are still habitable; the Aleutians lie between the Pacific and North American tectonic plates. The island chain is a western continuation of the Aleutian Range on the mainland. The coasts are rocky and surf-worn, and the approaches are exceedingly dangerous, the land rising immediately from the coasts to steep, bold mountains. Residents of Unalaska need only to climb one of the smaller hills in the area, such as Pyramid Peak or Mt. Newhall, to get a good look at the snow-covered cone. These cones were nearly demolished by an explosive eruption on September 1, These cloud formations were seen over the western Aleutian Islands. ASTER image of the islands. Climate[edit] The climate of the islands is oceanic, with moderate and fairly uniform temperatures and heavy rainfall. Fogs are almost constant. Summer weather is much cooler than Southeast Alaska around Sitka , but the winter temperature of the islands and of the Alaska Panhandle is very nearly the same. The growing season lasts approximately days, from early in May until late in September, but agriculture is limited to the raising of few vegetables. With the exception of some stunted willows , the vast majority of the chain is devoid of native trees. This is because the islands, much like the Falklands and other islands of similar latitudes , experience such strong winds that taller trees are vulnerable to snapping off. Instead of trees, the islands are covered with a luxuriant, dense growth of herbage and shrubs, including crowberry , bluejoint , grasses , sedges , and many flowering plants. Endemic plants include the endangered Aleutian shield fern. Fauna[edit] The Aleutians are home to many large colonies of seabirds. Buldir Island has 21 breeding seabird species, including the Bering Sea-endemic red-legged kittiwake. Large seabird colonies are also present at Kiska , Gareloi , Semisopochnoi , Bogoslof , and others. The islands are also frequented by vagrant Asiatic birds, including the common rosefinch , Siberian rubythroat , bluethroat , lanceolated warbler , and the first North American record of the intermediate egret. Their presence encourages the growth of kelp forests , as the otters control sea urchin populations as large populations of sea urchins can create urchin barrens by clearing away kelp stands. Sheep raising seems to have died off with the advent of synthetic fibers, which lowered the value of wool. During the s, there were some llama being raised on Unalaska. The current economy is primarily based on fishing , and the presence of U. The only crop is potato. Chickens are raised in barns under protection from the cold. Transportation[edit] In addition to a partial air service and a ferry service, the Alaska Marine Highway passes through many of the U. Demographics[edit] The native people refer to themselves as Unangan, and are now generally known by most non-natives as the " Aleut ". The Aleut language is one of the two main branches of the Eskimo–Aleut language family. This family is not known to be related to any others. Census recorded a population of 8, on the islands, of whom 4, were living in the main settlement of Unalaska. Prehistory[edit] Because of the location of the islands, stretching like a broken bridge from Asia to America, many anthropologists believe they were a route of the first human occupants of the Americas. The earliest known evidence of human occupation in the Americas is much farther south; the early human sites in Alaska have probably been submerged by rising waters during the current interglacial period. People living in the Aleutian Islands developed fine skills in hunting, fishing, and basketry. Hunters made their weapons and watercraft. The baskets are noted for being finely woven with carefully shredded stalks of beach rye. Russian period[edit] Explorers, traders and missionaries arrived from Russia beginning in After the ships were separated by a storm; Chirikov discovered several eastern islands of the Aleutian group, and

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Bering discovered several of the western islands. Bering was shipwrecked and lost his life in the Komandorski Islands Commander Islands , one of which now bears his name Bering Island. In this manner, Russia gained a foothold on the northwestern coast of North America. The Aleutian Islands consequently belonged to Russia, until that country transferred all its possessions in North America to the U. The colonies soon entered a relatively stable state based on cooperation, intermarriage, and official policies that provided social status, education, and professional training to children of mixed Aleut-Russian birth. Reversing the usual trend in colonization where indigenous technologies are replaced, the Russians adopted the Aleut kayak, or baidarka , sea otter hunting techniques, and the working of native copper deposits. The Russians instituted public education, preservation of the Aleut language through transliteration of religious and other texts into Aleut via an adaptation of the Cyrillic alphabet, vaccination of the native population against smallpox , and science-based sea mammal conservation policies that were ahead of their time. During his third and last voyage in , Captain James Cook surveyed the eastern portion of the Aleutian archipelago, accurately determined the position of some of the more important islands, and corrected many errors of former navigators. Within two years, a monk named Herman was the only survivor of that party. He settled on Spruce Island , near Kodiak Island , and often defended the rights of the Aleuts against the Russian trading companies. He was named Bishop Innokentii in and moved to Sitka. The principal settlements were on Unalaska Island. The oldest was Iliuliuk also called Unalaska , settled in 1784, with a customs house and an Orthodox church. New buildings included a Methodist mission and orphanage, and the headquarters for a considerable fleet of United States revenue cutters , which patrolled the sealing grounds of the Pribilof Islands. Congress extended American citizenship to all Native Americans and this law has been held to include the indigenous peoples of Alaska in 1924. A hospital was built in Unalaska in 1882 by the U. Bureau of Indian Affairs. World War II[edit] Main article: Navy, having broken the Japanese naval codes , knew that this was just a diversion,[disputed â€” discuss] and it did not expend large amounts of effort in defending the islands. More than 90 Americans were taken to Japan as prisoners of war. Most of the civilian population over of the Aleutians and Pribilovians was detained by the United States in camps in the Alaska Panhandle. American and Canadian troops later launched an invasion of Kiska , but Japanese forces had already withdrawn, ending the campaign in the islands. June 3, 1942, was celebrated as Dutch Harbor Remembrance Day. The governor of Alaska ordered state flags lowered to half-staff to honor the 78 soldiers who died during the two-day Japanese air attack in 1942. In 1955, the Ounalashka Corporation from Unalaska declared a dividend. This was the first village corporation to declare and pay a dividend to its shareholders. The final detonation, the Cannikin, was the largest underground nuclear explosion by the U.

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Voyage to America, " Translated from Russian edition of Kodiak and Afognak Life, " The Journals of Lieutenants E. Huggins and John Campbell, and merchant Frederick Sargent, with other materials relating to the first years of the American regime in Alaska , including portraits, and early map of Kodiak. Details on ship movements, personnel, trade and life style. Life on the Yukon , " From manuscript diary of a participant in the Western Union Telegraph Expedition , and his autobiographical account, written later. Ethnohistory in the Arctic: The Bering Strait Eskimo. Articles assembled in one volume for the first time, on early trade, the legendary 17th century Russian settlement, the history of St. Michael , Eskimo picture writing, land tenure and polity, settlement and subsistence patterns, and place names. An Ethnohistory of the Western Aleutians. Ioann Veniaminov , and biographical materials. Correspondence of the Governors. Translated of seldom-used manuscript material in U. The Yukon Years, " Translated by Lydia Black from unpublished manuscript in Library of Congress , with notes and appendices on the history and ethnography of the Yukon and Kuskokwim regions of Alaska. Notes on the Islands of the Unalashka District. Translated from Russian edition, St. Published jointly by the Limestone Press and the Elmer E. Rasmuson Library Translation Program.

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Chapter 3 : The Limestone Press - Wikipedia

A chronological history of the discovery of the Aleutian Islands: or, The exploits of Russian merchants: with a supplement of historical data on the fur trade. [VasiliĀ- Nikolaevich Berkh; Richard A Pierce] -- Translation of work first published in

Visit Website Did you know? The native people of the Aleutian Islands were originally known as the Unangan. Russian fur traders who arrived in the region in the mid-18th century renamed them the Aleuts. Like the other volcanic islands in the Aleutians, Attu and Kiska appeared to have little military or strategic value because of their barren, mountainous terrain and harsh weather, infamous for its sudden dense fogs, high winds, rains and frequent snow. Some historians believe Japan seized Attu and Kiska mainly to divert the U.S. Despite nationwide anger, American war planners at first paid relatively little attention to the Japanese garrisons at Attu and Kiska, as they were still reeling from the attack on Pearl Harbor and in the process of building up forces in the South Pacific and preparing for war in Europe. In fact, in the initial months after Japan occupied the islands, the U.S. In the meantime, during the months following their occupation, Japanese soldiers learned to acclimate to the extreme conditions on Attu and Kiska, and the Japanese navy kept the soldiers well-supplied. But by January 1943, U.S. Army forces in the Alaska Command had grown to 94,000 soldiers, with several bases recently constructed on other Aleutian Islands. Navy Rear Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid had set up a blockade of Attu and Kiska that restricted the flow of supplies to the Japanese occupiers. On March 26, 1943, Japanese ships in the Bering Sea attempted to deliver supplies and reinforcements to Attu; however, they were spotted by U.S. The Japanese fleet outnumbered the U.S. In addition to running low on fuel and ammunition, the Japanese reportedly feared the arrival of U.S. Following the battle, the Japanese soldiers on Attu and Kiska, now virtually isolated, were reduced to meager supplies sporadically delivered by submarine. Taking advantage of these conditions, the Americans prepared to land troops for ground combat against the Japanese garrisons. The Americans expected the operation to take no more than several days, but harsh weather and rugged, muddy terrain extended the combat for more than two weeks. The Japanese troops, greatly outnumbered, had withdrawn to high ground rather than contest the initial landings. Food shortages added to their misery as they crisscrossed the barren island, fighting mostly small but fierce engagements while scouring the rocks and slopes for booby traps, snipers and dug-in enemy troops. But the fate of the Japanese had been sealed when the Americans established air and naval supremacy over the island, cutting Japanese supply lines and making it unlikely that reinforcements would arrive. By late May, the last remaining Japanese troops were starving and had insufficient ammunition when U.S. The Japanese commander, Colonel Yasuyo Yamasaki, decided to make a last-ditch frontal charge. Shortly before daybreak on May 29, he and his soldiers began one of the largest banzai charges of the war in the Pacific. But the gambit ultimately failed. After a final attack on May 30, U.S. The Americans lost some 1,000 men in the retaking of Attu. Within two days, U.S. Then, after several days of scouring the island, they discovered that the Japanese had evacuated the entire garrison several weeks earlier, under cover of fog. On August 24, 1943, when U.S. This decision removed a significant number of Japanese troops and resources that might otherwise have been committed to resisting U.S.

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The chronological history of the discovery of the Aleutian Islands, or, The exploits of the Russian merchants: with the supplement of historical data on fur trade by VasiliĀ- Nikolaevich Berkh; United States.

The contributors leverage decades of data on Aleut origins, biogeography, and behavior through integration of molecular analyses, linguistics, archaeology, and ethnography. This research explores the origin and colonization of the Aleutian archipelago, communication and the extent of prehistoric cultural exchange among Aleut subgroups, ethnographic information as applied to human biological variation, metric and genetic variation among Aleut groups, and prehistoric dietary reconstruction. The Aleutian archipelago, composed of eastern, central, and western islands, extends 1, km between the North American and Asian continents and divides the northern Pacific Ocean from the Bering Sea. Volcanic in origin and formed during the early Tertiary, the archipelago is composed of more than islands divided into six groups, separated by ocean passes. The climate is maritime and is characterized by foggy and cloudy weather, frequent rain and winds, and often cold but not severe annual temperatures. The Aleutians form the southern boundary for the most biologically and commercially important region of the Pacific—the Bering Sea. Until recently, this area was a rich ecotone that supported abundant populations of large marine mammals, ocean fisheries, thick kelp forests, complex near-shore ecosystems and intertidal zones, spawning streams, and a highly diverse avian fauna pivotal to the adaptations and survival of the human groups who, in the past, peopled the islands of the archipelago. However, the Aleutians, once considered one of the richest island ecosystems in the world, have been undergoing considerable biotic turnover. Population densities of marine mammals and some economical fish have dramatically declined, and the once thick kelp forests have decreased. Committee on the Alaska Groundfish Fishery and Steller Sea Lions ; Trites et al. In contrast, Aleutian waters have witnessed increases in sea urchin, pollack, and [End Page] shark populations, species that were historically uncommon in this ecosystem. Estes et al. This biotic restructuring has occurred over a short time period and carries socioeconomic consequences and lessons for local inhabitants—and the world community, especially if rapid global warming is the cause. Estes et al. The Aleutian Islands define the southern margin of Beringia, across which much of the early peopling of the Americas occurred, and present a 9,year record of human occupation in the east and a record of more than 3, years in the west. Current research suggests that these prehistoric human inhabitants had minimal interactions with populations outside the archipelago, with any new interactions commencing from the Alaska Peninsula. These remote islands preserve the critical cultural and biological information of peoples who settled, adapted, and thrived in a subarctic maritime world. The historical record of the Aleut peoples, like many other Native Americans, is one of exploitation and decimation resulting from disease and warfare. During the 18th century, the arrival from Russia of sea otter hunters, followed by Russian Orthodox missionaries, had a drastic effect on Aleutian populations and their hunter-gatherer culture, economy, and maritime environment. Tikhmenev Upon contact, the native population declined rapidly; by only 16 islands were inhabited by an estimated 2, natives. Sekora This initial historical period has provided the richest reservoir of ethnographic data. Berkh ; Black ; Lantis ; Liapunova ; Veniaminov , which largely focus on Aleuts living on the eastern islands. A second devastating blow to Aleut culture occurred in , when the Imperial Japanese Navy bombed Dutch Harbor in the eastern Aleutians and captured Kiska and Attu islands to the west. Naval weather observers on Kiska and Attuans were relocated to prisoner-of-war camps in Hokkaido, Japan, where less than half of them survived. In the best interests of the United States, American You are not currently authenticated. View freely available titles:

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Supplement of Historical Data on the Fur Trade. by Berkh, Vasilii Nikolaevich. Kingston, Ontario: The Limestone Press.

Chapter 6 : Books set in the Aleutian Islands (83 books)

In the Battle of the Aleutian Islands (June August) during World War II (), U.S. troops fought to remove Japanese garrisons established on a pair of U.S.-owned islands west of.

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After the ships were separated by a storm; Chirikov discovered several eastern islands of the Aleutian group, and Bering discovered several of the western islands. Bering was shipwrecked and lost his life in the Komandorski Islands (Commander Islands), one of which now bears his name (Bering Island).