

# ART OF THE COLDEST WAR

AS PART OF OUR 250th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF PRESENTING US NAVY HISTORY THROUGH ART, IN THIS ISSUE WE FOCUS ON WORLD WAR TWO ACTION IN THE ALEUTIANS — ONE OF THE MOST HOSTILE AREAS KNOWN TO MAN

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ART WORK COURTESY OF THE NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND



Violent winds were a constant occurrence in the Aleutians and damage always resulted as can be seen in the oil on board painting titled *Windstruck* by William F. Draper. Done in 1942, the art shows a vital Consolidated PBV-5A Catalina that had been tossed onto its back and destroyed — even though the plane had been extensively tied-down and weighted with oil drums. The loss of the aircraft was a blow since every plane was vital in the battle against the Japanese. The Aleutian Campaign was as much about the fight against the elements as it was against the enemy. During the course of 1942 and early 1943, ships, planes, and thousands of troops were shifted north as forces could be spared from other battle fronts. New bases, such as those on Amchitka and Adak were constructed and the Alaska-Canada Highway was built to connect Seattle with Juneau.

*Deck Scene With Snow-Covered Mount* is a watercolor on paper work by Edward T. Grigware done in 1943. Painted aboard ship, the artist used life rafts to frame a cargo ship in a storm-tossed harbor set against a harsh and frozen mountain. Grigware was a successful illustrator before WWII. As his part of the war effort, he worked for the Navy's recruiting section and was assigned to cover life in Alaska.

