

**REFERENCE CODE:** AkAMH

**REPOSITORY NAME:**

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**TITLE:** Edward Peplinski Collection

**COLLECTION NUMBER:** B2017.018

**OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION**

Dates: circa 1942-1945

Extent: 1 box; 0.2. linear feet

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Edward Peplinski

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

Edward J. Peplinski (1922-1980) served in the Aleutian Islands with the U.S. Army 726<sup>th</sup> Engineer Heavy Shop Company during World War II. He was a Tec-4 in charge of the company parts room.

**Scope and Content Description:**

The collection consists of 95 black-and-white photographs, as well as news clippings and ephemera, created or collected by Peplinski during his service with the U.S. Army during World War II. The images primarily depict military life at the Adak Army Airfield. For more information, see Detailed Description of Collection.

Arrangement: Original order maintained.

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE**

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in fair to good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

The Anchorage Museum is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the Anchorage Museum before any reproduction use. The Anchorage Museum does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

Preferred Citation:

Edward Peplinski Collection, Anchorage Museum, B2017.018

**ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated by stepdaughter Lee Trainor in September 2017.

Processing Note

Album disassembled due to condition. Decorative album covered retained. Original order of items maintained. Slips of paper with identifying information removed to accession file. Newspaper clippings photocopied; original clippings discarded.

**SUBJECTS**

Peplinski, Edward J., 1922-1980  
World War, 1939-1945—Campaigns—Aleutian Islands  
World War, 1939-1945—Alaska  
United States—Armed Forces—Military life  
Aleutian Islands (Alaska)  
Adak Island (Alaska)

Detailed Description of the Collection

**Photographs**

- .1 – L-44. Castle Theatre Adak [exterior of theater, with signs at right including speed limit, no parking]
- .2 – L-441 [view down road in winter to mountains, two trucks on road in distance, probably Adak]
- .3 – L-441 [scenic of mountains in winter, probably Adak]
- .4 – L-441 [distant view of base buildings and Quonset huts in winter, mountains in background, probably Adak]

- .5 – L-441. Tundra Theatre Adak [Quonset hut with façade in winter, poster advertising “Fighting Lady”]
- .6 – Rifle range, Adak [distant view of firing stations, mountains in background]
- .7 – L-441 [view of base in winter, Quonset hut in snow in middle ground, sastrugi in snow surface, probably Adak]
- .8 – 63<sup>rd</sup> depot, hdqrs & warehouses, Adak [winter view across clearing to large buildings, pile of supplies or debris in clearing]
- .9 – L-441 [locomotive C.P.R. No. 1 and Countess of Dufferin railroad cars on display, Winnipeg, Manitoba]
- .10 – L-441 [winter scenic, looking from road to mountains, probably Adak]
- .11 – L-441 [exterior of Bering Chapel, Adak, in winter]
- .12 – View of Mt. Sitka from Adak [scenic of mountain as seen across water, Great Sitkin Volcano?]
- .13 – L-441 [interior of warehouse or supply depot, probably Adak]
- .14 – L-441 [group portrait of seven servicemen, Peplinski back right? probably Adak]
- .15 – [base view, taken from top of building, Quonset huts in foreground, mountain in distance, probably Adak]
- .16 – [winter scenic of mountain, supplies piled next to Quonset hut in foreground, probably Adak]
- .17 – [scenic, road and utility pole in foreground, water and mountains in distance, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .18 – [close-up of military airplane, possibly Curtiss P-40 Warhawk, showing nose art]
- .19 – [exterior of Bering Chapel, Adak, in summer. With stamp of base examiner]
- .20 – [man standing next to military airplane, possibly Martin B-26 Marauder, tail number 135431 on airstrip in winter, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .21 – [base view in winter, with Quonset huts and water storage tanks in foreground, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .22 – [base view in winter, with snow pile or buried tent in foreground, Quonset huts in background, mountains in distance, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .23 – [base view in winter, road in middle ground, large building at right, mountains in distance, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .24 – [base view in summer, tundra grass in foreground, Quonset huts, walled tents, and other buildings in background, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .25 – [base view in summer, servicemen walking in middle ground, staircase leading to Quonset huts in background, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .26 – [base view in winter, looking down boardwalk to Quonset huts, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .27 – [base view in spring, looking down road to Quonset huts, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .28 – [exterior of APO 980 Post Office, Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .29 – [young boy shoveling snow next to two-story house, Wisconsin?]
- .30 – [bird’s eye view of four servicemen standing between rows of Quonset huts in spring, probably Adak]

- .31 – [view down boardwalk between rows of Quonset huts in spring, serviceman standing next to ladder and rack with buckets labeled “Fire Only,” probably Adak]
- .32 – L-441 [English police constable wearing helmet and uniform, London?]
- .33 – Adak [bird’s eye view of base with row after row of Quonset huts]
- .34 – [two servicemen posed outdoors, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .35 – L303 [view down road in winter, truck at left, mountains in distance, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .36 – L303 [base view in winter, with Quonset hut in foreground, walled tents in background, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .37 – L303 [base view in winter, with snow-covered depressions in foreground, Quonset huts and other buildings in background, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .38 – [base view in spring, looking between rows of walled tents, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .39 – [military airplane, possibly Lockheed P-38 Lightning, tail number 86 213545 covered in snow, Quonset hut and other buildings in background, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .40 – [exterior of base building in winter, possibly motor pool trucks parked behind, Quonset hut at right, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .41 – [base view in winter, Quonset hut in foreground, mountains in distance, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .42 – [scenic of river in winter, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .43 – Ready for work, Adak [group portrait of seven servicemen posed outdoors, truck at right, probably Adak, possibly Peplinski third from right smoking cigarette]
- .44 – [two servicemen wearing cold weather clothing posed outdoors in winter, Quonset hut in right background, possibly Peplinski at left, probably Adak]
- .45 – L-441 [two men standing under targets at rifle range, probably Adak]
- .46 – Aleutian landmarks – “Theaters.” S-37. Photograph approved by Theatre Censor [Photographic postcard. Four images of theaters, including Downtown Theater]
- .47 – [military airplane, Douglas C-47, with nose art “Bourbon Nose” on airstrip in winter, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .48 – ALERT! Adak [group portrait of servicemen mustered next to Quonset hut. With stamp of base examiner]
- .49 – [Photographic postcard. Tree sculpture next to Quonset hut, with sign “Tree, Only One on Attu”]
- .50 – [serviceman wearing helmet pointing rifle at camera, standing outdoors in winter, building in background, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .51 – [serviceman holding rifle posed outdoors in winter, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .52 – [two servicemen posed outdoors in winter, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .53 – [five servicemen posed next to building in summer, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .54 – [four shirtless men posed on fence next to grove, Wisconsin?]
- .55 – [man wearing bathing suit rowing scull on lake, docks in background, Wisconsin?]

- .56 – [exterior of base building, serviceman standing in entrance, Jeep parked at right, Quonset hut at left]
- .57 – [base view in summer, Quonset huts in foreground, truck in middle ground, mountains in distance, probably Adak]
- .58 – [man wearing robe and slippers sitting on hospital bed. With stamp of American Studios, Wisconsin]
- .59 – Barney Powers from the Windy City, Adak [serviceman sitting on bunk in barracks, clothing hanging on rack, photograph on shelf, sketch hanging from shelf. With stamp of base examiner]
- .60 – Aleutian landmarks – The PX. S-35. Photograph approved by Theatre Censor [Photographic postcard. Four images of post exchanges, one with sign “Caribou Inn”]
- .61 – Jap landing barge on an Aleutian beach. S-22. Photograph approved by Theatre Censor [Photographic postcard. Japanese landing craft on beach]
- .62 – L-441 [Peplinski seated in barracks, smoking pipe, probably Adak]
- .63 – L-303 [icicles hanging from eaves of building with sign “Hotel Olympic,” snowbank at left. With stamp of base examiner]
- .64 – L-303 [scenic of river rapids and boulders. With stamp of base examiner]
- .65 – L-303 [heavy equipment for road construction next to rock face, Quonset hut in background. With stamp of base examiner]
- .66 – L-303 [scenic of ocean surf. With stamp of base examiner]
- .67 – L-303 [military airplane on airstrip. With stamp of base examiner]
- .68 – L-303 [scenic of beach and ocean surf. With stamp of base examiner]
- .69 – L-303 [crane next to pile of lumber. With stamp of base examiner]
- .70 – L-303 [scenic of river through tundra in winter. With stamp of base examiner]
- .71 – L-441 [Peplinski wearing cold weather clothing posed outdoors in winter, probably Adak]
- .72 – L-441 [serviceman lying on bunk in barracks, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .73 – L-441 [two servicemen wearing cold weather clothing posed outdoors in winter, possibly Peplinski at right, probably Adak]
- .74 – L-441 [serviceman sitting in barracks, jackets on hooks behind, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .75 – [two servicemen posed next to Quonset hut in summer. Original image blurry]
- .76 – Pvt. Ed. Peplinski, West Allis 2 Tractor, Alaska [studio portrait]
- .77 – L-441 [two servicemen reclining on bunk in barracks, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .78 – London, England, 9 Sept. 1944 [studio portrait of Edward A. Suchorski. Cf. .79]
- .79 – Edw. Suchorski, in England, 1944 [serviceman posed next to Quonset hut. With stamp of Wisconsin photo lab]
- .80 – L-441 [serviceman reading book on bunk in barracks, probably Adak. With stamp of base examiner]
- .81 – Jap sub, Kiska [two women sitting on Japanese submarine on beach. With stamp of base examiner]
- .82 – [shirtless man posed in front of house, Wisconsin?]
- .83 – L-441 [serviceman holding beer bottle sitting on bunk in barracks, probably Adak]

- .84 – L-441. A corporal on Adak during leisure hours [Peplinski smoking pipe, reclining on bunk in barracks]
- .85 – [photo booth portrait of serviceman wearing uniform]
- .86 – [photo booth portrait of woman]
- .87 – [two couples posed in yard in front of house, Wisconsin?]
- .88 – [two servicemen wearing uniforms posed outdoors in summer]
- .89 – L-441 [four servicemen reclining in tundra grass, Peplinski in foreground, probably Adak]
- .90 – L-441 [servicemen reclining in tundra grass, one holding rifle, Peplinski in center, large group of men standing in left background, probably Adak]
- .91 – V-E Day, England, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1945 [American serviceman smoking cigarette holding newspaper with headline “Germany Quits.” With stamp “For personal use, not for publication”]
- .92 – [two servicemen posed on boardwalk, Peplinski at left, probably Adak]
- .93 – Merry Christmas, 1944, Aleutian Islands. U.S. Army Signal Corps [composite image with nine scenes including Bering Chapeln, female USO entertainer, cemetery, mountains, base scenes]
- .94 – [Peplinski wearing uniform posed in stone pavilion, Wisconsin?]
- .95 – [studio portrait of Peplinski]

### **Ephemera**

- *The Adakian*. Vol. 8, no. 88, Wednesday September 26, 1945. 4 pages
- *St. Mary's Breeze*. Vol. 2, no. 6, April 1944. Published by St. Mary of Czestochowa, Milwaukie, Wisconsin. Contains news from and mailing addresses for parish servicemen, including Peplinski. 6 pages
- *We of Allis-Chalmers*. Vol. 4, no. 1, January-February 1944. Includes photo directory of employees serving in the armed forces, including Peplinski. 20 pages
- *We of Allis-Chalmers*. Vol. 4, no. 5, June-July 1944. Includes map of employee service locations with short messages, including note from Peplinski about serving in the Aleutians during Christmas 1943. 24 pages
- “If war comes, Alaska is our key defense post.” By Kent Hunter. News clipping from unidentified source. Map with locations, air routes, and “combat radii”.
- “Army transport lands Aleutian veterans in Tacoma; 2<sup>nd</sup> transport brings men from Pacific.” By Lawrence Harper. News clipping from unidentified source.
- “Welcome, veterans from Aleutians and Japan; Jean Lafitte, Chirikof due on Thursday.” News clipping from unidentified source.
- “Portraits: My dearest.” By James J. Metcalfe. Clipping from unidentified source. Poem
- Untitled. By Don L. Johnson, Sentinel outdoors writer. News clipping from unidentified source. Short piece on Adak weather
- “Demobilizing Alaska, I.” By Mack Talbot. News clipping from unidentified source.
- “Alaska, a vassal territory, II.” By Mack Talbot. News clipping from unidentified source.
- Fotodiary. Illustrated album cover, with map of Alaska showing route of Alcan Highway, Richardson Highway, Alaska Railroad, and White Pass & Yukon Route

Guide written: February 16, 2018