

Only Four Japanese Prisoners Captured in Attu Campaign

Washington, June 2 (AP).—The United States Navy underscored the suicidal nature of Japanese resistance in the Western Aleutians today with the disclosure that only four prisoners were captured, while a minimum of 1,500 Japanese were being killed in the first 20 days of the American drive on Attu Island.

The death toll probably will be increased greatly when final reports are in. The figure is additionally conservative in that it represents only bodies counted, and takes no account of Japanese who may have been buried under the snow by their comrades or left unrecognizable by shell and bomb blasts.

It is this stubborn resistance which has prolonged the Attu struggle into its fourth week. American forces were understood to be continuing mopping up operations today, and despite the enemy's heavy

casualties a number of pockets of resistance in the mountainous northeastern end of the island around Cape Khlebnikof still had to be cleaned out.

American casualties thus far announced indicated that losses on the island were many times lighter than those of the Japanese. War Secretary Henry Stimson said last Thursday that United States forces had lost 127 men killed, 339 wounded, and 118 missing.

While this did not cover as long a period as the navy's report on Japanese losses, authorities said that United States proportionate losses would remain on about the same level.

The campaign on Attu went into its fourth week Tuesday. Communiqués indicated that the actual battle is won, and all that remains now is to clean up the scattered pockets of resistance in the Khlebnikof area.

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