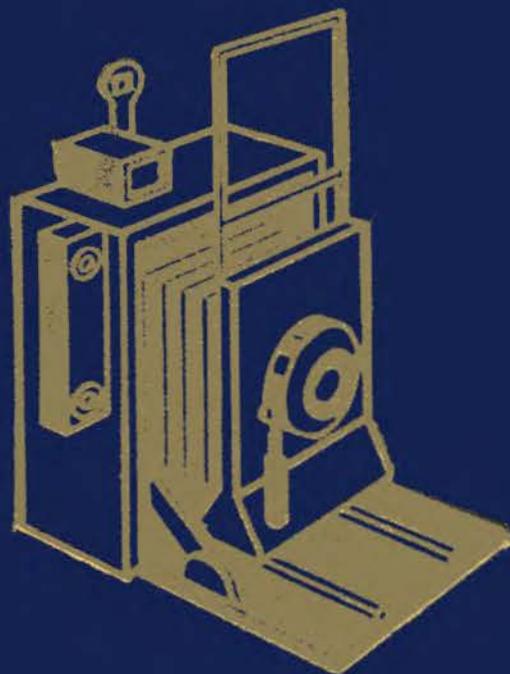
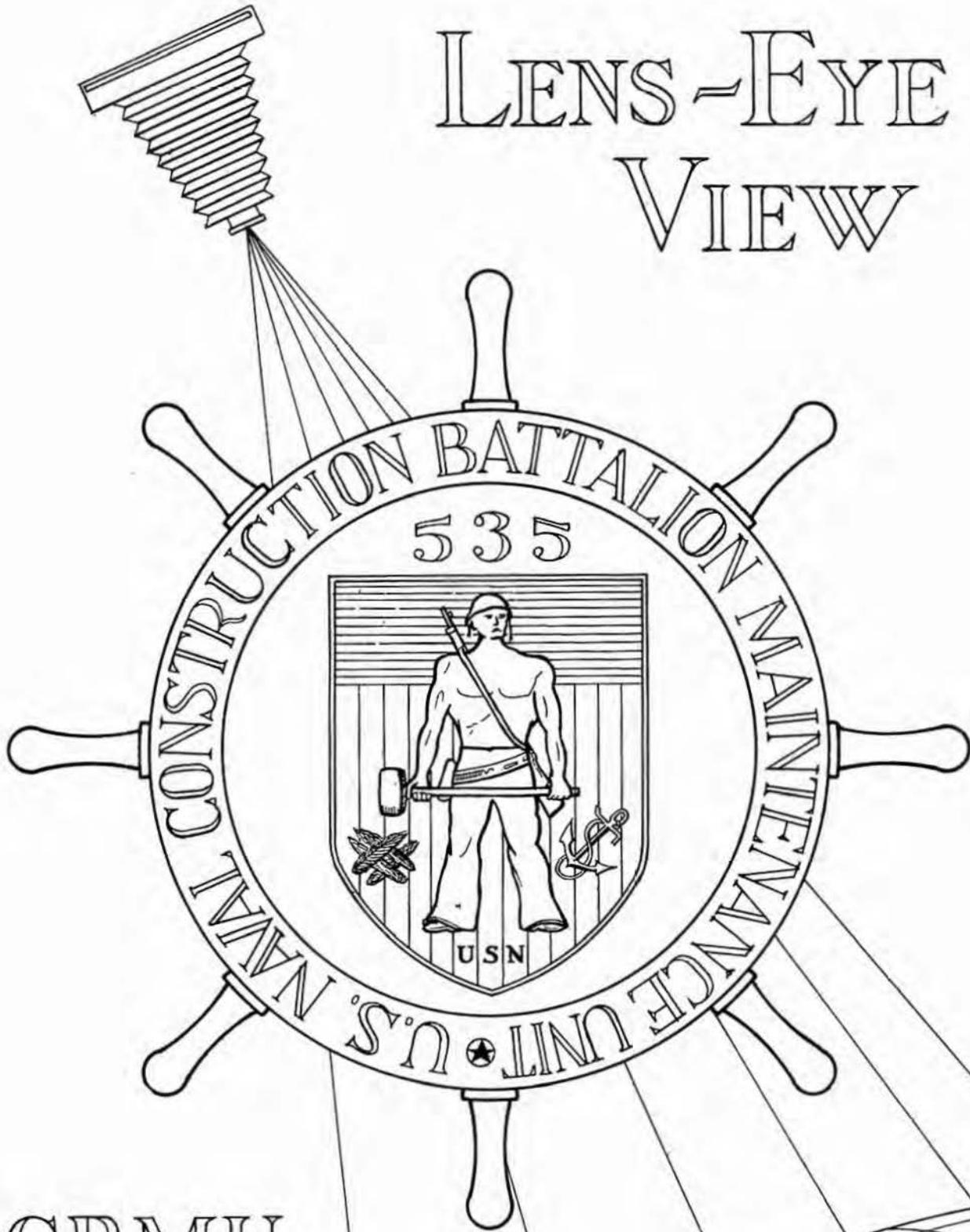


LENS-EYE VIEW



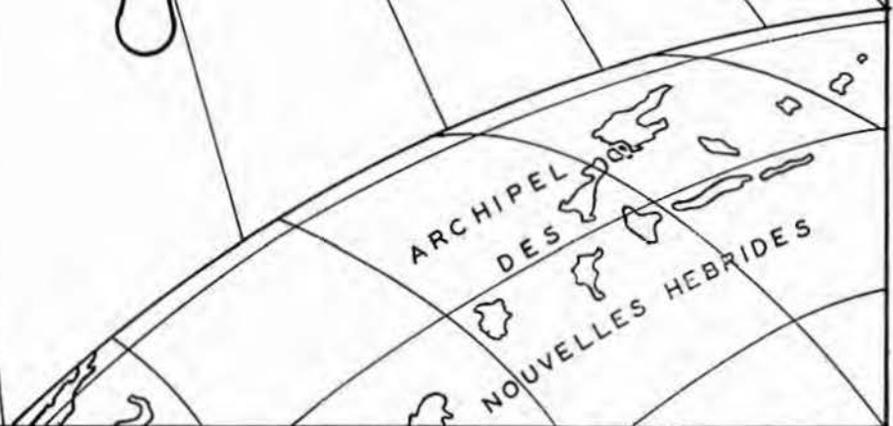
CBMU 535

LENS-EYE VIEW



CBMU

535





IN MEMORIAM

On the morning of Sunday, 15 April, the men of CBMU 535 saluted the ensign as it rose to the top of its mast, and in solemn attention, watched its descent to half-mast in mourning of the death, two days before, of their Commander-in-Chief, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Memorial services were held throughout the day at all Base Chapels.



LENS-EYE VIEW CBMU 535

★

PREPARED UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF THE COM-
MANDING OFFICER
CBMU 535

THE STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER FRED L. WILLIAMS, CCM

PHOTOGRAPHY

PRODUCTION

LAYOUT AND CAPTIONS ROBERT H. GOLDEN, SF3c

TYPE ARRANGEMENT ROBERT F. BROWN, Y3c

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The staff wishes to acknowledge individual photographic contributions by S. J. Duke, R. H. Golden, J. W. McCarthy and G. F. Murphy. The entire contents of this book have been reviewed and passed by Naval censors.



DEDICATION

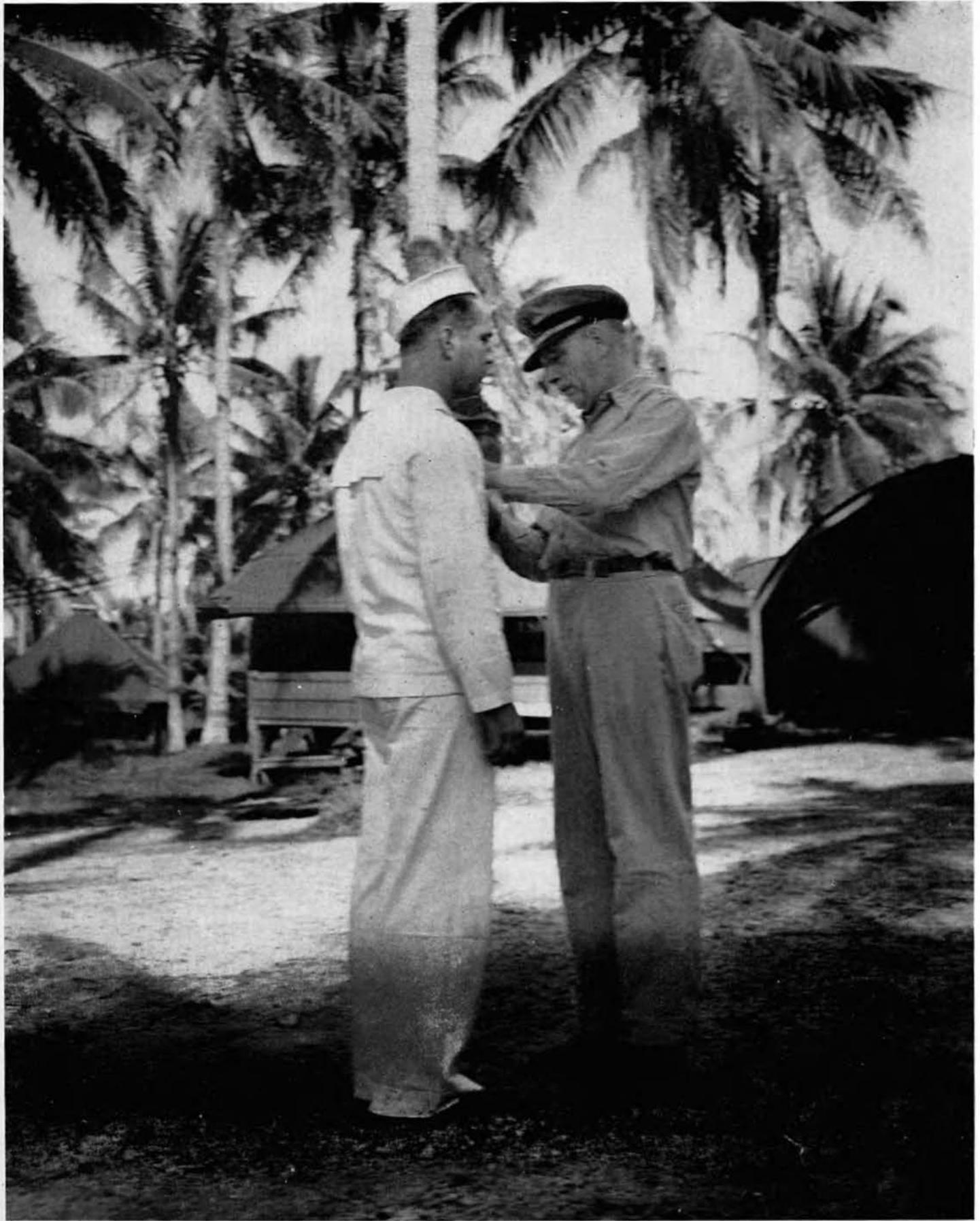
BY

LIEUT. JOHN H. SWANBERG COMMANDING OFFICER

To our loved ones back home this album is dedicated. To many of them, much more than for us, the past many months have been a period of sacrifice, thoughtfulness and devotion.

Unfortunately, perhaps, the work which we have done has not been spectacular, romantic, or heroic. We have good reason, however, to believe that it has been very important. It is for others, not us, to say of our work, "Well Done." But each man can share whatever credit may be due the Unit in proportion to his individual effort.

It has been my privilege to have served as your Officer-in-Charge. All in all it has been a very pleasant and worthwhile experience. To you who have made it so I am very grateful. May I wish each of you good luck, good health, success and happiness.



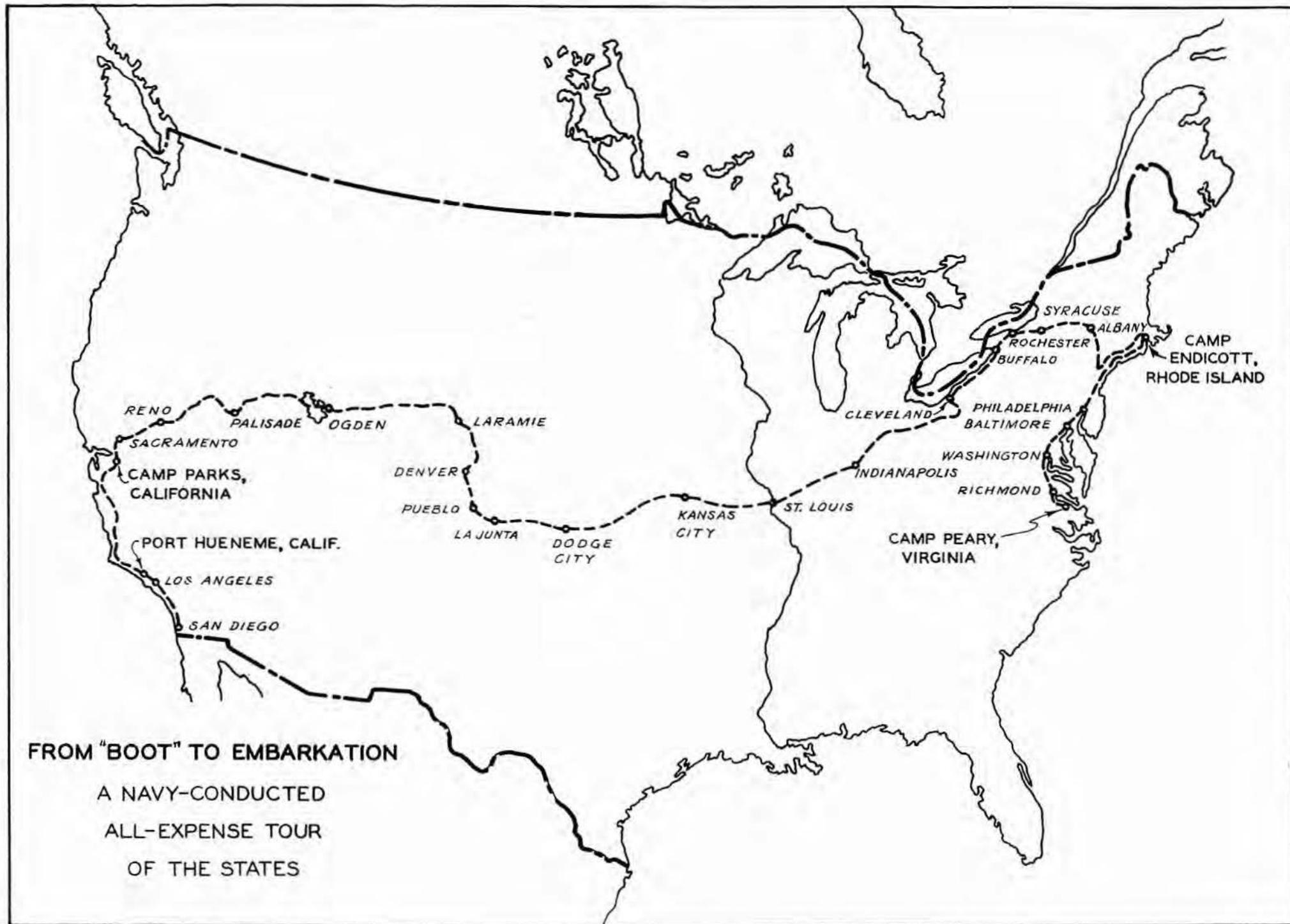
PHILIP H. BERNING, MMRIc, THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION RIBBON FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DISTINGUISHED PERFORMANCE OF THE SIXTH N.C.B. DURING THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN. LIEUT. JOHN H. SWANBERG MADE THE PRESENTATION.

NAMES FOR REMINISCING

CBMU 535 was commissioned on October 5, 1943, with Lt. John H. Swanberg as Officer-in-Charge, Lt. (jg) Irving Rosenfield, Executive Officer, and Ens. John C. Balsewicz, Warrant Officer C. A. Stephenson, and Warrant Officer H. A. Swatman, Company Officers. At a later date, Warrant Officer H. A. Swatman was transferred and Warrant Officer C. B. Schillinger was attached to CBMU 535. The enlisted men who are, or were at one time, members of CBMU 535 are as follows:

Abernathy, J. E.	Brown, R. F.	Evans, W. W.	Jones, I. W.
Ackerman, J. D.	Burek, W.	Farewell, C. J.	Jones, J. H.
Adkins, J. C.	Burke, R. T.	Farewell, J. W.	Joy, M. R.
Adler, L. A.	Burris, D. S.	Field, R. J.	Kauffman, M. D.
Agay, A.	Byrum, R. J.	Flagg, J. E.	Keplinger, G. E.
Aker, J. L.	Calvert, R.	France, D. E.	Kirk, M. A.
Aldrich, L. E.	Camilletti, P. F.	Golden, R. H.	Kirk, T. F.
Allen, W. C.	Camron, B. B.	Green, J. H.	Klonowski, S. M.
Alongia, A. G.	Cardone, T. J.	Grund, C. B.	Kloss, A.
Anderson, L. G.	Carey, S.	Guentner, D.	Kneipp, C. D.
Anderson, R. S.	Carpenter, J. J.	Hackel, S.	Kostley, L. F.
Anding, M. G.	Carroll, R. T.	Hall, B. H.	Krainock, A. J.
Arenas, M. T.	Channel, H. B.	Hammes, C. W.	Kuhne, E. H.
Ashmore, H. C.	Cleghorn, J. F.	Hampton, M. W.	Larson, F. W.
Austin, S. J.	Conarroe, F. M.	Hanson, M. L.	Larson, W. M.
Baird, R. L.	Crain, E. H.	Harman, J. E.	Laumann, W. H.
Ball, G. L.	Crawford, R. J.	Hartsinck, F. J.	Lavigne, R. A.
Banovetz, J. F.	Deagle, G. L.	Healey, J. J.	Le Bar, J. D.
Barr, D. W.	De Franzo, J. F.	Henley, W. G.	Lee, V. M.
Barrick, D.	De Gennaro, J.	Henry, W. H.	Leland, J. L.
Bartels, L. F.	Dehn, E. A.	Hernandez, R. V.	Lelegko, C. I.
Bellanca, D.	De Witt, G. L.	Herr, F. J.	Lewis, J.
Berning, P. H.	Di Sessa, T. J.	Hinton, R. N.	Lindsay, J. D.
Bevon, T. J.	Dixon, B. B.	Hossack, R. L.	Lippert, R. H.
Boese, G. R.	Donegan, C. E.	Hudgens, J. A.	Logsdon, N. B.
Bonk, B. B.	Dorsey, H. H.	Hudson, J. J.	Luderman, C. E.
Borg, O. K.	Doyon, F. J.	Huston, C. L.	Lurvey, J. H.
Botsford, H. E.	Duff, H. L.	Hutchinson, D. W.	Maas, F. J.
Braden, P. W.	Duffell, J. E.	Isbister, G. H.	Martin, E. A.
Bradley, E. W.	Duke, S. J.	Jenkins, J. D.	McCarthy, A. J.
Britton, B. J.	Dusenbery, K. R.	Jergens, H. R.	McCarthy, J. W.
Bron, D. L.	Edgerton, C. H.	Jewell, R. W.	McCarthy, T. G.
Brown, H. G.	Ellyson, R. L.	Johnson, W. G.	McCauley, J. J.

McDaniel, W.	Potee, J. H.	Souther, R. C.	Umlah, E. A.
McElmurray, W. M.	Pysz, J. F.	Spanier, R. A.	Urevich, A. J.
McFarland, F. H.	Radmer, E. E.	Spencer, H. E.	Van Dyke, W.
McGarghan, D. L.	Rando, T. D.	Spurgin, J. W.	Vestal, C. D.
McIntosh, F. W.	Rarden, J. S.	Srb, C. J.	Vincent, A. C.
McIntosh, W. R.	Read, S. E.	Stanley, C. G.	Voelkel, P. R.
McKenna, G. J.	Reed, V. L.	Stanton, H. E.	Wall, T. J.
McManaway, D. J.	Regan, J. L.	Starke, R. T.	Wallace, W. E.
Merritt, G. W.	Remillard, E. S.	Starn, F. E.	Walter, W. J.
Miller, C. A.	Rich, E. L.	Stein, L. E.	Weaver, M. E.
Montalbano, J. E.	Riche, E. J.	Stevens, C. C.	Weems, F. J.
Morgan, E. W.	Richards, A. R.	Stewart, J.	Weiss, O. A.
Morgan, W. R.	Robinson, G. W.	Stickever, V. J.	Welch, J. D.
Moss, L. M.	Robison, L. D.	Stitzer, E. T.	Weldin, J. A.
Mueller, B. G.	Rolen, C. W.	Stratton, P. R.	Whitehead, J. H.
Murphy, G. F.	Rollison, I. L.	Straw, C. F.	Wiedersberg, O. F.
Myers, R. E.	Rosenblatt, J.	Strohmaier, A. C.	Wilburn, E.
Neighbor, J. R.	Rousselle, L. R.	Summerson, G. F.	Wilkerson, H. E.
Nemeth, J.	Rowe, E. J.	Sumrall, H. E.	Williams, F. L.
Nicolai, R. I.	Rowe, R. H.	Swanson, C. V.	Williams, N. C.
Noble, J. F.	Ryan, J. W.	Swope, W. L.	Williamson, A. L.
Nylander, N. R.	Sansone, A. R.	Sysol, H. P.	Willis, F. G.
Orwig, R. K.	Schaffer, W. A.	Taber, K.	Winder, C. L.
Ottenwalder, L. C.	Schroeder, C. F.	Tamoski, J. H.	Winsper, S. F.
Palmer, B. C.	Schuttler, D. J.	Tate, W. A.	Wise, J. E.
Palmer, W. R.	Schwebke, E. A.	Taylor, H. R.	Wittmeyer, B. E.
Parker, G. H.	Sessions, R. D.	Taylor, V. C.	Wood, V. M.
Pascoe, L. G.	Sheafer, G. D.	Thompson, R. E.	Wright, J.
Patten, E. C.	Shelzi, D.	Tobin, F. X.	Wurm, T. N.
Patterson, L. A.	Sherman, W. H.	Tomlinson, J. T.	Wyatt, C. R.
Patton, H. J.	Shiple, R. L.	Tottenham, E. T.	Wyatt, L.
Payne, C.	Shrader, J. H.	Touhey, J. J.	Yarnell, C. W.
Pendleton, D. E.	Siebert, R. J.	Tracy, J. F.	Young, I. W.
Pennington, T. E.	Smith, A. E.	Tramel, P. W.	Young, R. E.
Perrine, D. B.	Smith, D. R.	Trawick, D. L.	Young, S. H.
Peyroux, F. E.	Smith, E.	Troxclair, L. C.	Zack, B. N.
Phillips, J. P.	Smith, J. E.	True, R. C.	Zevola, A. J.
Phillips, L. B.	Smith, L. E.	Turner, W. H.	Zimmerman, E.
Poche, A. J.	Smudrick, O. R.	Uhelski, J. B.	Zwonechek, J. D.
Porter, D. J.	Sonntag, E. A.		



FROM "BOOT" TO EMBARKATION

A NAVY-CONDUCTED
ALL-EXPENSE TOUR
OF THE STATES



To Lt. Swanberg and his staff of competent aides must go much of the credit for the high level of morale within the unit and the high standard of performance of their men in the field.

Left to right: Carp. C. B. Schillinger, Lieut. I. Rosenfield, Lieut. J. H. Swanberg, Lt. (ig) J. C. Balsewicz, CWO C. A. Stephenson.

535'S OFFICERS

Officers' country lay on a slope beyond the Executive Office. Its well-kept grounds and comfortable tents were typical of the rest of the camp area.





535'S CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

Standing, left to right: William R. Morgan, CCM; Vincent J. Stickever, CBM; John "J" Carpenter, CCM; Tim F. Kirk, CSF; Malcolm G. Anding, CCM; Gerald F. Murphy, CSF; and Earl A. Umlah, CCM.

Kneeling, left to right: Gilbert F. Summerson, CMM; Samuel Hackel, CEM; Fred L. Williams, CCM; Niles R. Nylander CMMS; and Francis X. Tobin, CMoMM.

Not available at the time the picture was taken: David W. Barr, CSF; Thomas J. Bevon, CCS; Don "L" Bron, CCM; Orville K. Borg, CCM; Homer "L" Duff, CCM; Bennie H. Hall, CSF; Ralph A. Spanier, SF; Aloysius J. McCarthy, CSF; and Bertren C. Palmer, CEM.



535'S MEN

PLATOON ONE

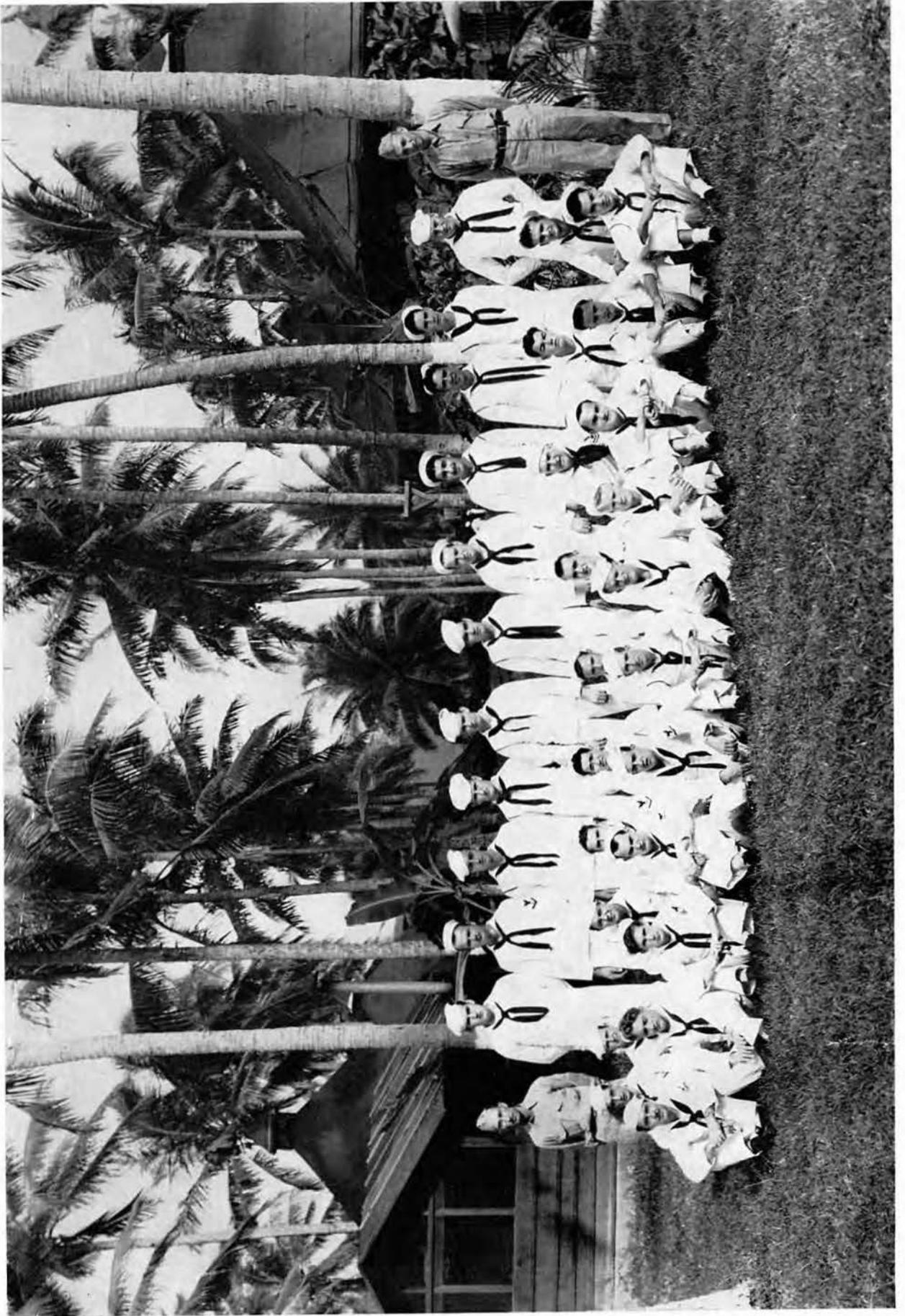
PLATOON CHIEF: EARL A. UMLAH

Standing, left to right: Bennie H. Hall, CSK; Leroy A. Adler, EM1c; Harold C. Ashmore, MM1c; Bernard B. Bonk, S1c; Louis F. Kostley, SK2c; John D. Le Bar, SKD2c; Jack L. Aker, CM3c; Stanley E. Read, MM2c; Angelo Sansone, GM1c; Earl A. Umlah, CCM; and Fred Williams, CCM.

Kneeling, left to right: Billy Joe Britton, S2c; Clarence J. Srb, CM1c; Paul W. Braden, Y3c; Jess L. Leland, Y1c; Paul F. Camilletti, S1c; Walter Burek, S1c; Harry R Taylor, S1c; Leroy C. Troxclair, CM3c; John H. Tamoski, MM3c; Robert J. Byrum, CM2c; and James R. Neighbor, SK3c.

Not available at the time the picture was taken: Hugh J. Patton, SF3c; Robert C. True, S1c; and Edward Wilburn, SF3c.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)



535'S MEN

PLATOON TWO

PLATOON CHIEF: NILES R. NYLANDER

Front row, sitting, left to right: Daniel Guentner, MMR1c; Wilfred H. Lauman, S1c; John Lewis, SC3c; George R. Boese, Bkr3c; Kenneth Taber, MM3c; Stanley M. Klonowski, S1c; William G. Johnson, MM3c; Leon G. Anderson, S1c; Richard T. Burke, CM3c; Richard L. Baird, CM3c; and Harry E. Wilkerson, S1c.

Second row, kneeling, left to right: Floyd M. Conarroe, CM3c; Lowell M. Moss, MM3c; Russel J. Crawford, S2c; Robert F. Brown, Y3c; Troy E. Pennington, SC2c; Ennis W. Bradley, S1c; Freeman J. Weems, MM3c; Charles G. Stanley, EM2c; Fredrick E. Starn, Bkr2c; and James H. Green, S1c.

Last row, standing, left to right: Niles R. Nylander, CMMS; Harry G. Brown, S1c; Edward A. Sonntag, Bkr1c; Joseph F. Banovetz, SC3c; Harry P. Sysol, S2c; Wilton A. Tate, S1c, James D. Welch, S2c; James J. Touhey, S1c; John De Gennaro, MM3c; Robert E. Thompson, S1c; Alvin L. Williamson, S1c; Virgil M. Lee, CM3c; and Samuel Hackel, CEM.

Not available at the time the picture was taken: James W. Boren, S1c; Melvin L. Hanson, S1c; Robert I. Nicolai, SC3c; David E. Pendleton, SC1c; and William E. Wallace, S1c.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)



535'S MEN

PLATOON THREE

PLATOON CHIEF: DON "L" BRON

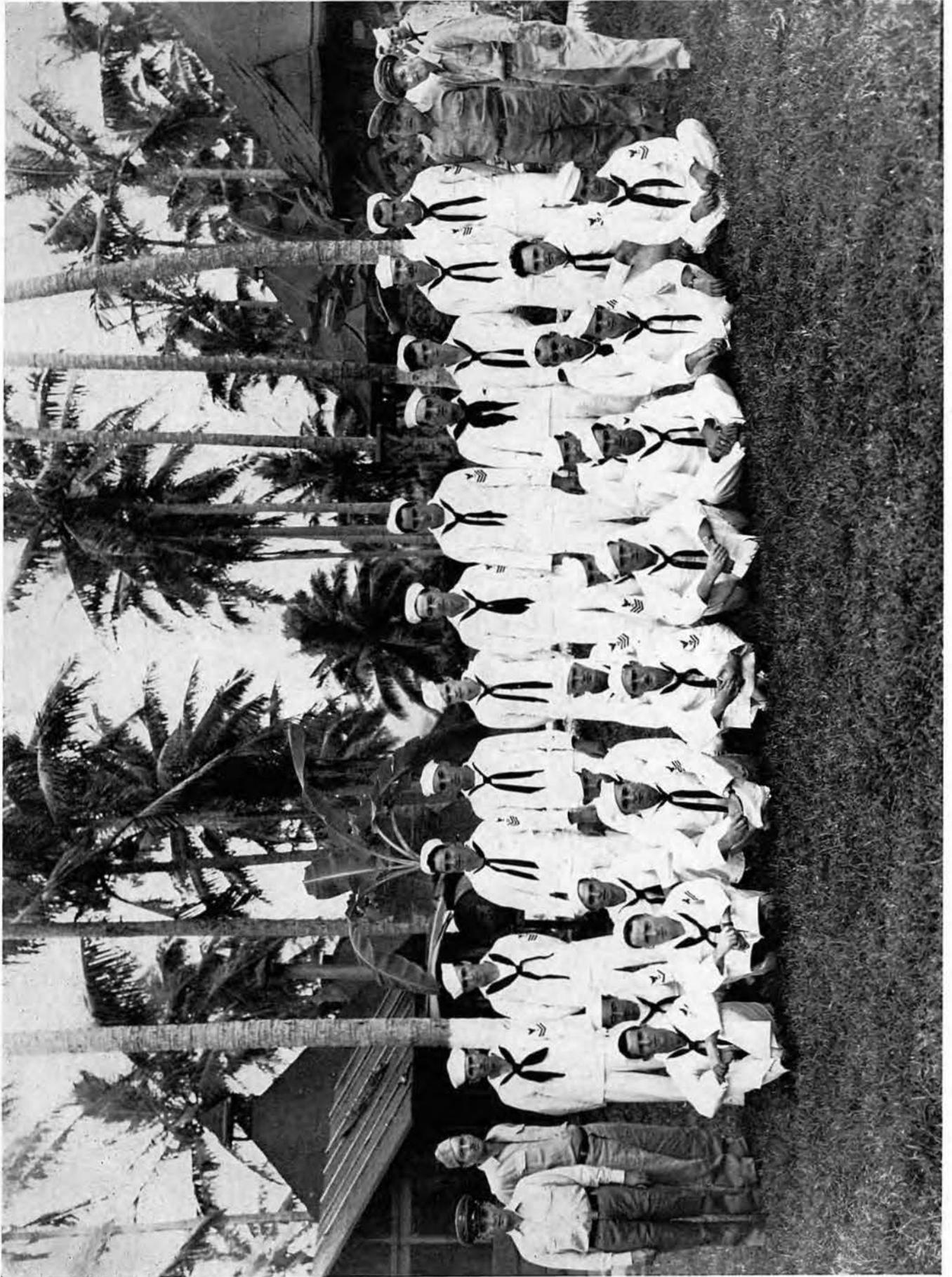
Front row, sitting, left to right: Dominic Shelzi, MoMM2c; Tony J. Di Sessa, MM3c; Clarence W. Rolen, MM3c; James D. Jenkins, MM1c; Lester C. Ottenwalder, MoMM2c; John J. Hudson, MMS2c; Frederick W. Larson, MMS2c; and Odis R. Smudrick, CM2c.

Second Row, kneeling, left to right: Emil Zimmerman, WT2c; Richard T. Carrol, MoMM1c; Albert C. Strohmaier, MM3c; Frank G. Willis, MM3c; Joseph D. Ackerman, MoMM2c; Russel L. Shipley, CM2c; Claude C. Stevens, CM3c; and Roy T. Starke, SF2c.

Last row, standing, left to right: Ralph A. Spanier, CSF; Don "L" Bron, CCM; Joseph B. Uhelski, S1c; Ralph J. Siebert, MM3c; Carl F. Shroeder, EM1c; Jacob Rosenblatt, M1c; Samuel F. Winsper, MM3c; Norman C. Williams, MM3c; Charles A. Miller, WT1c; Robert D. Sessions, MoMM3c; Francis W. McIntosh, MM1c; and Francis X. Tobin, CMoMM.

Unavailable at the time this picture was taken: Leslie A. Aldrich, MM3c; Thomas J. Bevon, CCS; and David J. Porter, MM2c.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)



535'S MEN
PLATOON FOUR

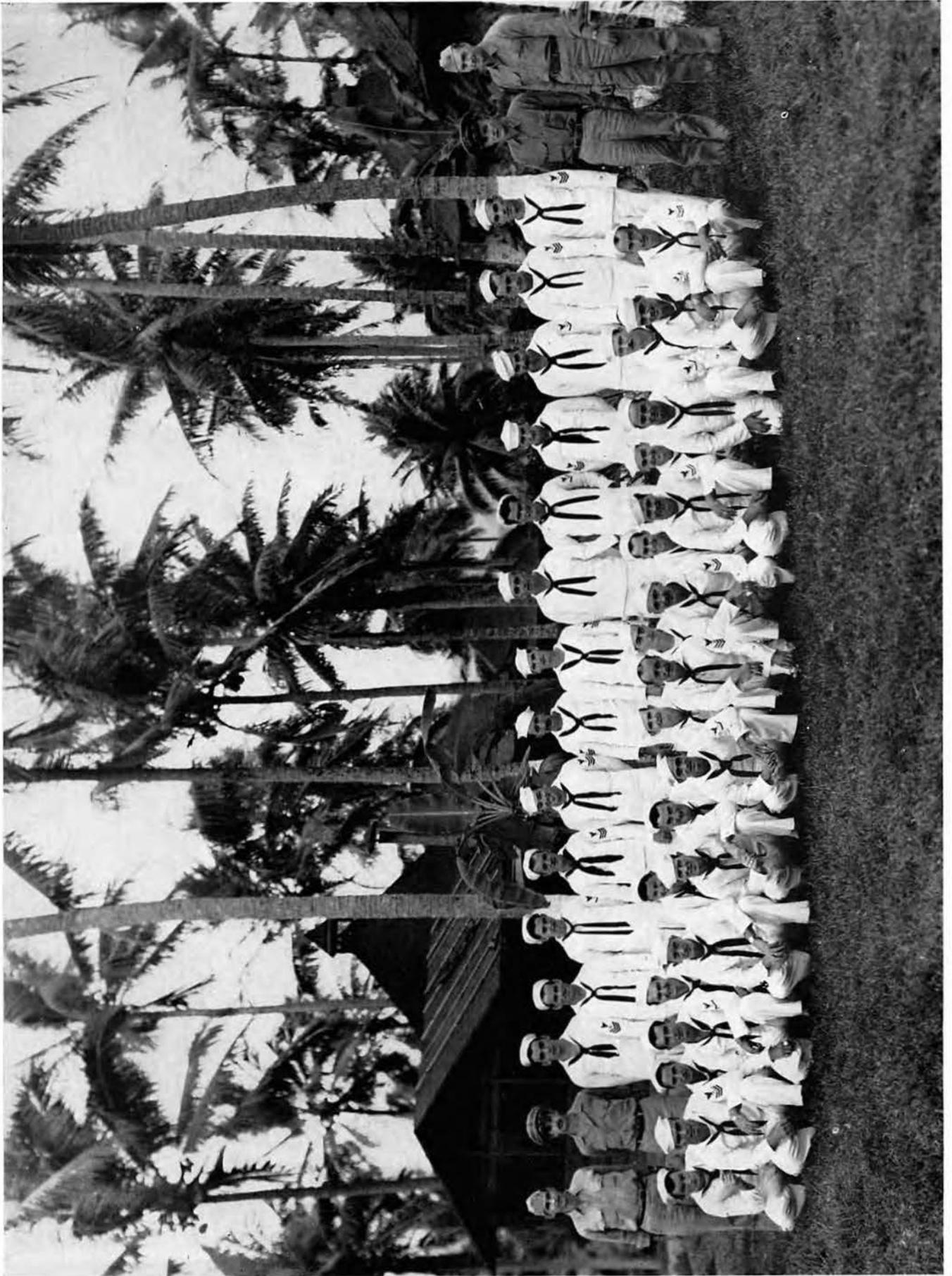
PLATOON CHIEF: JOHN "J" CARPENTER

Front row, seated, left to right: Joseph W. Ryan, SF2c; John F. Tracy, CM2c; John H. Jones, MM1c; Warren R. Palmer, MM2c; Jack Stewart, MM2c; Clarence W. Yarnell, MM2c; Louis R. Rousselle, MM3c; and George W. Merritt, CM2c.

Second row, kneeling, left to right: Edward S. Remillard, CM3c; Robert L. Hossack, BM2c; Raymond H. Rowe, SF3c; Elwood Smith, MM1c; Ralph Calvert, GM1c; Charles H. Edgerton, MM1c; Herbert E. Stanton, CM1c; and Fredrick J. Maas, MM3c.

Last row, standing, left to right: Gilbert F. Summerson, CMM; John "J" Carpenter, CCM; Herman H. Dorsey, Ptr1c; John E. Smith, CM1c; Grover L. De Witt, CM2c; John A. Weldin, SF1c; Robert E. Myers, MM3c; Clarence B. Grund, CM1c; Edmund H. Crain, CM1c; Edgar T. Stitzer, EM1c; Wilson Turner, BM2c; and William W. Davis, SF1c; Wayne M. Larson, CM2c; Orvill K. Borg, CCM; and Vincent J. Stickeyer, CBM.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)



535'S MEN

PLATOON FIVE

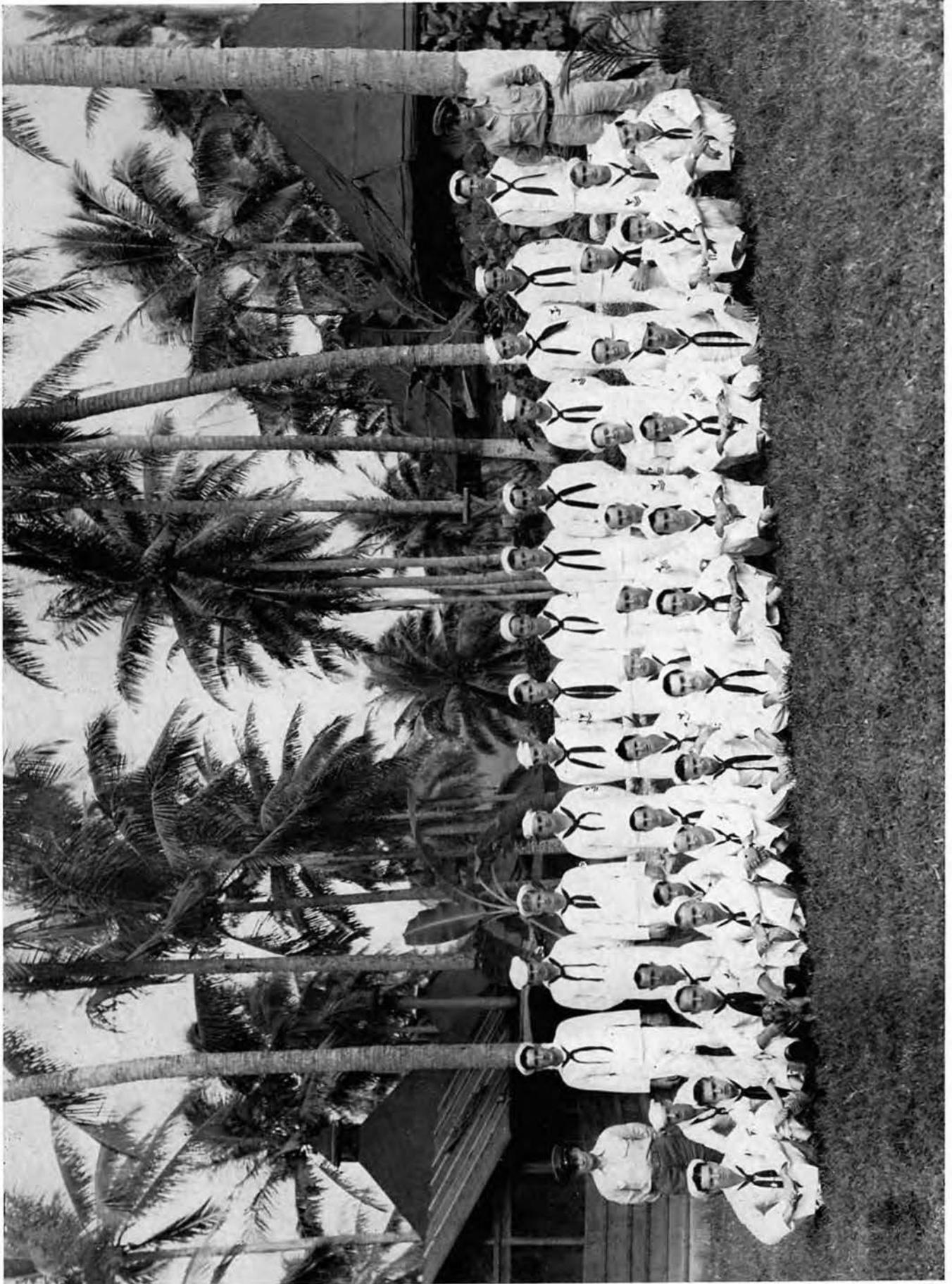
PLATOON CHIEF: DAVID W. BARR

Kneeling, left to right: "L" "B" Phillips, CM3c; Edwin T. Tottenham, SF1c; Franklin H. McFarland, SF1c; Emile A. Martin, M2c; Roger A. Lavigne, SF2c; Leslie Wyatt, MM3c; Vernon M. Wood, S1c; John J. Healey, MoMM3c; Gordon J. McKenna, SF1c; John E. Montalbano, SF3c; Clifford E. Donegon, SF2c; James H. Shrader, SF1c; Frederick E. Peyroux, WT3c; Carl W. Hammes, CM2c; Percy W. Tramel, SF1c; Earl L. Rich, SF2c; Chester F. Straw, SF1c; Laurel E. Smith, SF3c; William A. Schaffer, CM3c; John H. Whitehead, SF1c; and Harry "E" Botsfod, CM1c.

Standing, left to right: Tim F. Kirk, CSF, David W. Barr, CSF; John E. Wise, S1c; Albert E. Smith, SF1c; Issacc W. Young, MM3c; Edward A. Dehn, CM1c; James F. Cleghorn, CM1c; John W. Spurgin, GM1c; William Van Dyke, WT1c; Robert L. Ellyson, MM3c; Frederick J. Hartsinck, SF3c; John T. Tomlinson, GM1c; Thomas D. Rando, Ptr2c; Jack Wright, CM1c; William M. McElmurry, CM1c; Homer "L" Duff, CCM; and Gerald F. Murphy, CSF.

Unavailable at the time the picture was taken: Edgar J. Rowe, SF2c; and Woodson L. Swope, CM2c.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)



535'S MEN

PLATOON SIX

PLATOON CHIEF: WILLIAM R. MORGAN

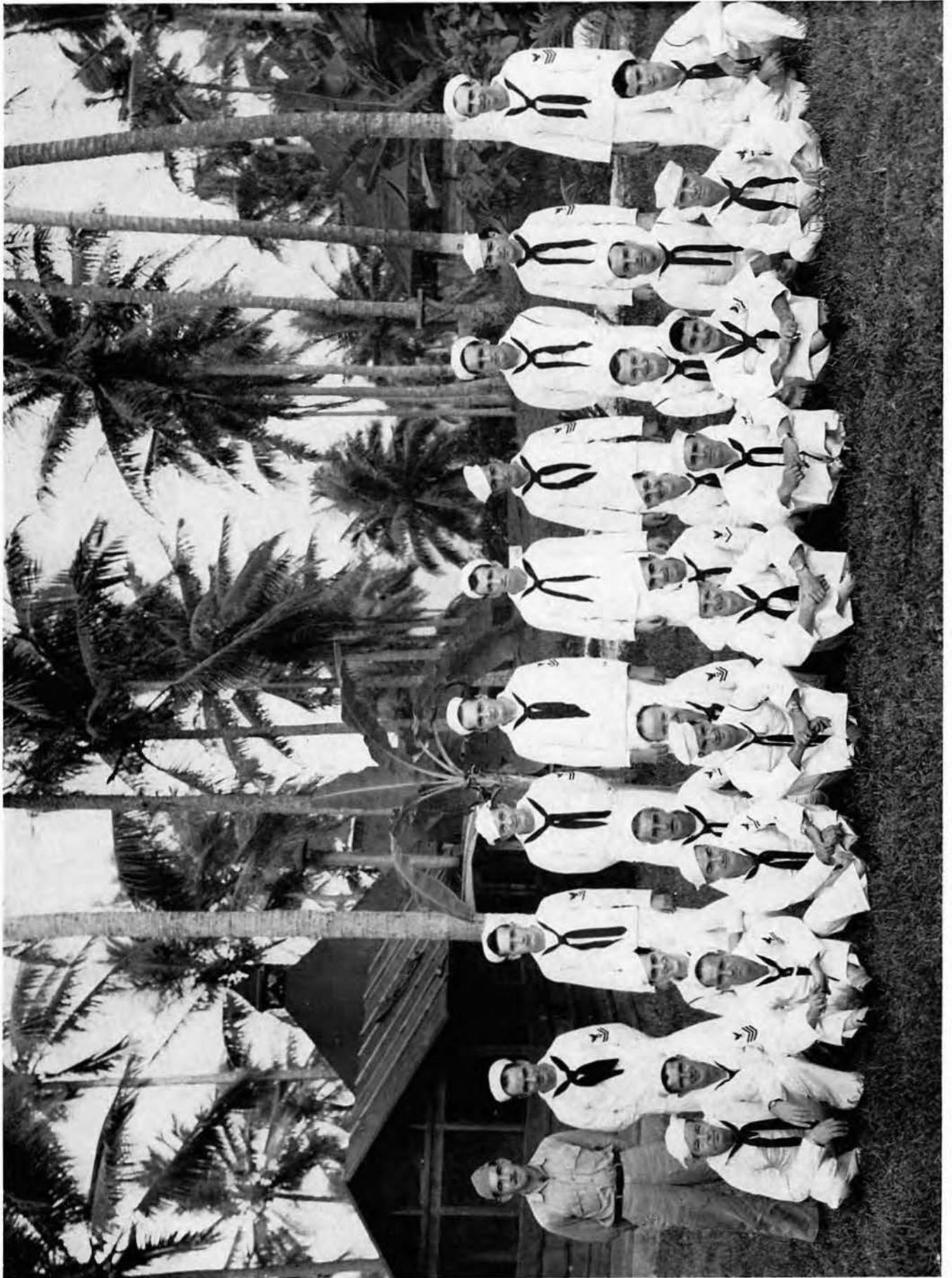
Front row, sitting, left to right: Winston G. Henley, CM2c; Ralph W. Jewell, MM3c; Earl E. Radmer, EM2c; Philip H. Berning, MMR1c; James F. Pysz, MoMM2c; Clifford L. Huston, S1c; Stanley H. Young, Y3c; John H. Potee, EM3c; Thomas J. Cardone, EM2c; Sylvan J. Duke, MMR1c; Bernard E. Wittmeyer, S1c; Lyman D. Robison, EM3c; and Elwood W. Morgan, CM2c.

Second row, kneeling, left to right: Roy S. Anderson, EM3c; Dwight L. Trawick, EM1c; James P. Phillips, CM3c; Robert H. Golden, SF3c; Haskell E. Sumrall, CM3c; Ben B. Dixon, EM2c; Andres C. Vincent, EM1c; Frederick J. Herr, MMS1c; Edwin C. Patten, SF3c; Ralph E. Young, MM1c; Donald W. Hutchinson, M3c; and Robert N. Hinton, SF2c.

Last row, standing, left to right: William R. Morgan, CCM; Paul R. Voelkel, SSMB3c; George H. Parker, MM3c; Jack E. Abernathy, F1c; Jesse W. Farewell, EM1c; Charles J. Farewell, M1c; Lawrence F. Bartels, Cox; Dillon B. Perrine, CM2c; Charles D. Vestal, S1c; George E. Keplinger, MoMM3c; Paul R. Stratton, EM1c; Lloyd G. Pascoe, EM3c; Wilmer W. Evans, MMS2c; Charles V. Swanson, S1c; and Bertren C. Palmer, CEM.

Unavailable at the time the picture was taken: Donald J. Schuttler, EM2c; and Otto F. Wiedersberg, S1c.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)



535'S MEN

PLATOON SEVEN

PLATOON CHIEF: MALCOLM G. ANDING

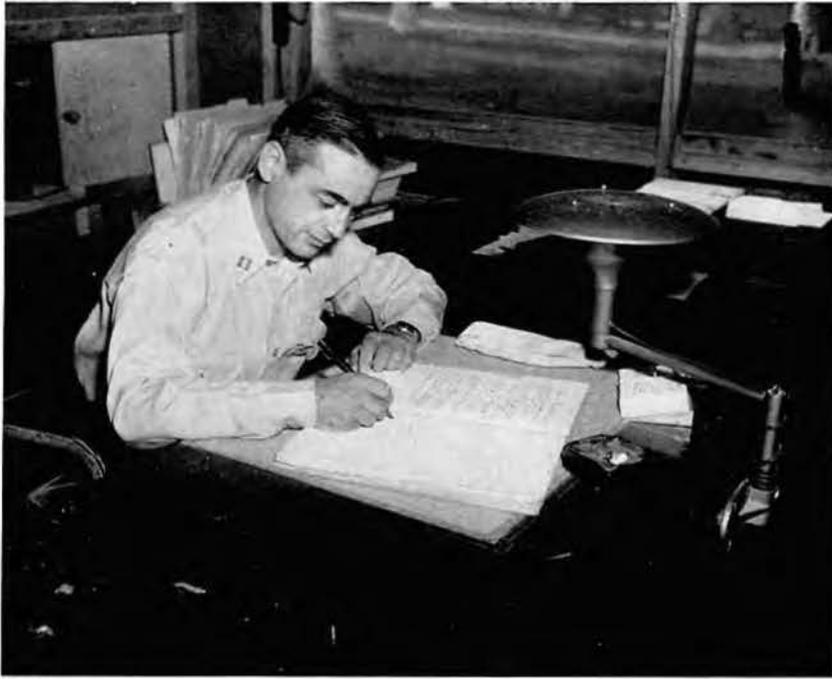
Front row, seated, left to right: Daniel E. France, SF3c; Emil A. Schwebke, MMS2c; James "E" Harmon, CM2c; Carl E. Luderman, MM3c; Bernard G. Mueller, CM2c; Rafael V. Hernandez, CM3c; Irvin L. Rollison, MM3c; and Harvey R. Jergens, SF3c.

Second row, kneeling, left to right: Elliott H. Kuhne, CM1c; William J. Walter, S1c; David S. Burris, GM2c; Ray C. Souther, WT2c; Christopher D. Kneipp, SF3c; Claude I. Lelegko, SF2c; Thomas J. Wall, S2c; Melvin D. Kauffman, S1c; and Dennis J. McManaway, M3c.

Last row, standing, left to right: Malcolm G. Anding, CCM; James S. Rarden, MoMM2c; Homer E. Spencer, MMS3c; LeRoy A. Patterson, CM2c; Joseph J. McCauley, EM2c; Robert H. Lippert, GM1c; Manuel T. Arenas, CM1c; Marvin E. Weaver, MM3c; James W. McCarthy, CM2c; and John Nemeth, CM1c.

Unavailable at the time the picture was taken: Daniel Bellanca, S1c; Buster B. Camron, CM2c; and Charles R. Wyatt, S1c.

(All rates as of 1 May, 1945)

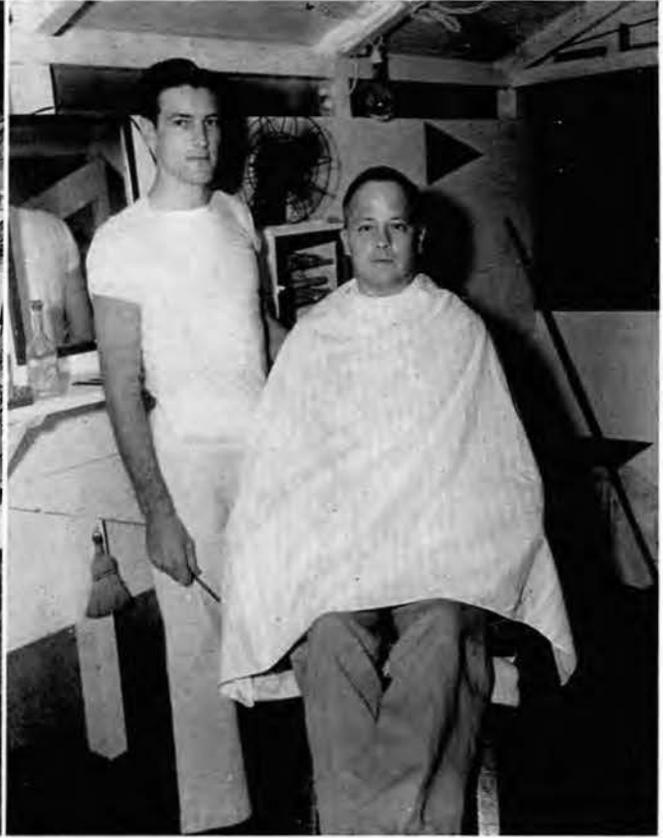


PERSONNEL
WELFARE
SUPPLY
SHIP'S SERVICE

LIEUT. IRVING ROSENFELD
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL
fell to the enlisted assistants of
the Commanding and Executive
Officers. Standing (l. to r.):
Chiefs Fred Williams and Earl
Umlah. Seated, at their desks
are Yeomen Stanley Young and
J. L. Leland.





SHIP'S SERVICE ACTIVITIES included the completely equipped cobbler shop operated by LeRoy Patterson, upper left, and the barber shop, upper right, where the latest in scuttlebutt was spiritedly dispensed along with the latest in haircuts by Paul Veolkel. The victim: Fred Williams. Another vital activity of Ship's Service was the unit laundry. All such services were free of charge, funds having been allotted from the Base Ship's Service fund for their operation.



REPLACEMENT PARTS needed by 535's maintenance crews were procured in record time through Chief Hall's supply department, which was also responsible for the complete inventory of the unit's equipment, from shoes to dump trucks.

Left to right: James Cleg-horn, Bennie Hall, John Tamoski, and Stan Klonowski.



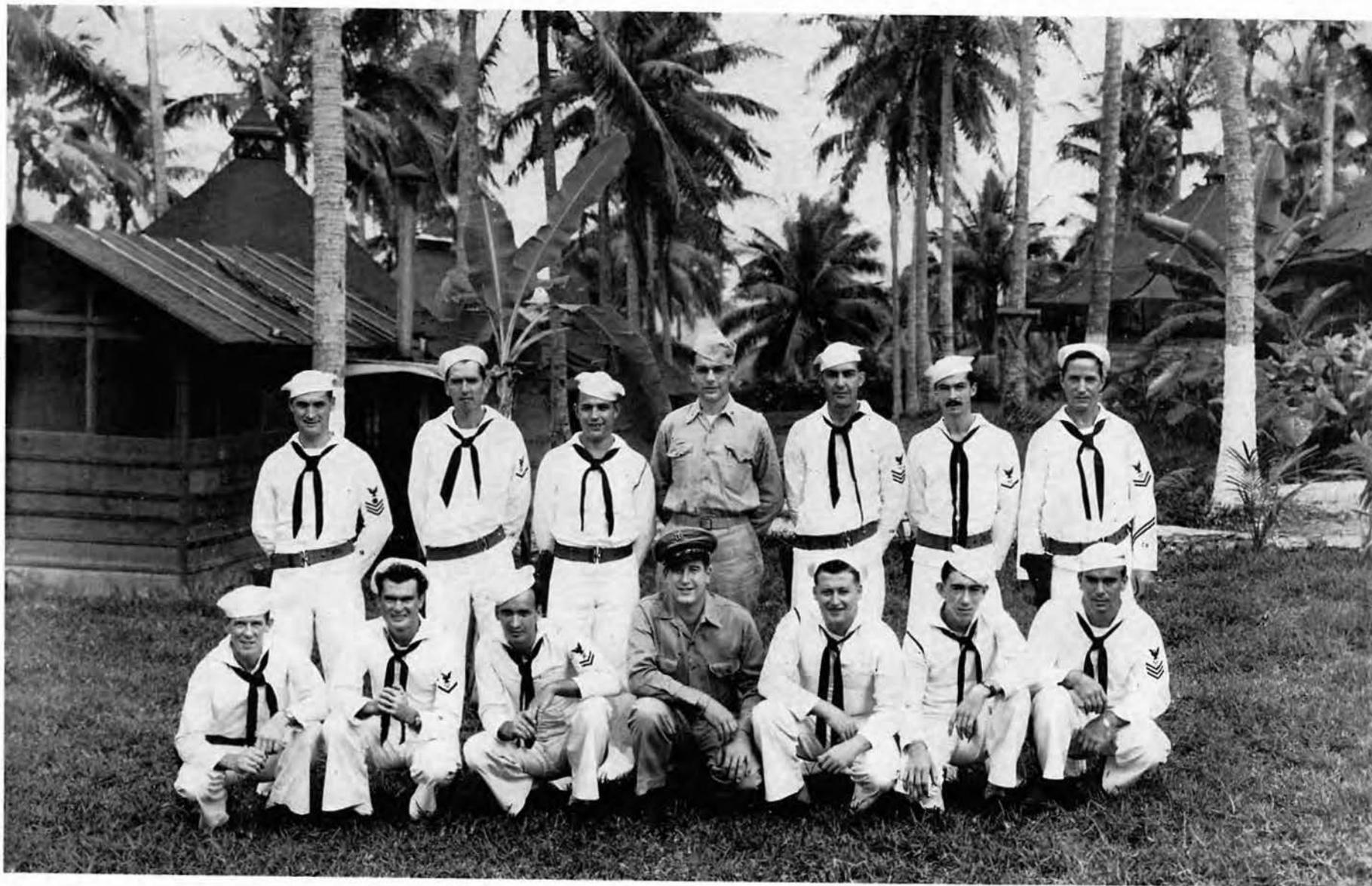
MILITARY TRAINING
ORDNANCE
CENSORSHIP AND VOTING
GRADING AND
EXCAVATING

LIEUT. (JG) JOHN C. BALSEWICZ
SECURITY OFFICER

DYNAMITE AND CLAM-SHELL sink a hole through 20 feet of solid coral.

Left to right: Lt. (jg) J. C. Balsewicz, David Burris, Ralph Calvert, Cliff Donegan, and Issacc Young.





THE SECURITY GUARD under Chief-Master-at-Arms Earl A. Umlah, was the enforcement arm of the Security Office. Standing (left to right): Carl Schroeder, Sam Winsper, Louis Rouselle, Lt. (jg) J. C. Balsewicz, Harold Ashmore, Elwood Morgan, and Franklin McFarland. Kneeling (left to right): Winston Healey, Fred Hartsinck, Louis Kostley, Earl Umlah, Thomas Wall, Billy Britton, and Edwin Tottenham.



MARKSMANSHIP

Aimed at making every man a qualified marksman or better, 535's military program greatly stressed rifle practice. Right: carbines at 200 yards, timed fire.

Below: In the butts, relays which have just come off the firing line stand by to mark targets and check scores.

Below: One of 535's many trained anti-aircraft gun crews, these men are preparing to fire the 20-mm. Oerlicken at a towed sleeve.



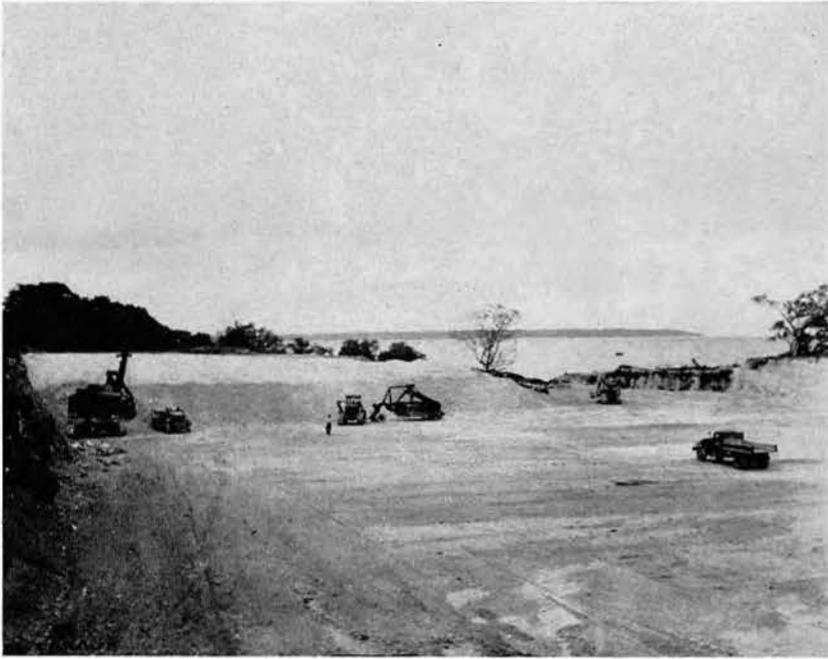


Primarily responsible for the care and repair of 535's ordnance equipment, A. R. Sansone, shown stripping a Tommy gun, was also a capable assistant to the Military Training Officer in enforcing the rigid range rules of the firing line.

We waited a long time for this opportunity of doing some censoring of our own, but seriously, Clarence Srb (right), assisted by Ray Souther (left), performed their thankless assignment well and conscientiously.

Innocent of the charge of having anything to do with the censoring, however, is Warrant Officer Christian B. Schillinger, seated. (See page 35.)





THE CORAL PIT

Uncounted thousands of yards of coral were dug from 535's borrow pit to construct and maintain roads and other installations.



At times the equipment in the pit was operating 24 hours a day, using floodlights by night, to supply needed "fill"



EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

Chief Summerson's heavy equipment operators are shown against the pit's "big scoop," its 1 1/2-yard Northwest shovel. In cab: Frances McIntosh.

Standing, left to right: Lt. (jg) J. C. Balsewicz, Gilbert Summerson, Clarence Yarnell and Stanley Read.



New techniques in stabilization were applied by Chief Borg's road equipment operators, but at best, maintenance of coralled surfaces was a never-ending task.

Left to right: Wayne Larson, John Tracy, William Johnson, Orvill Borg, Fred Maas, John Jones, Virgil Lee.

Operators of 535's tank truck ran a rigid schedule on fuel deliveries to important power points.

Front row, left to right: Norman Williams, James Shrader, Ralph Calvert, Warren Palmer, Herbert Stanton.

Rear: Haskel Sumrall, Clarence Rolen, Irvin Rollison.



TRANSPORTATION



Troop convoys, supply hauls, or just Sunday recreation trips were part of the day's work for the Transportation Dispatcher's office.

Left to right: Leslie Aldrich, Claude Stevens, Ralph Young, Laurel Smith and William McElmurray.



The heavy equipment maintenance and repair crew kept 535's graders, "cats," and shovels operating with a minimum of breakdowns during critical jobs.

Left to right: Francis Tobin, George Merritt, Dominic Shelzi, Emil Schwebke, Al Strohmaier and Denis McManaway.

MOTOR-MACS

Duty on the "rock" was rough on trucks, too. That they were able to stand up under it as they did was due to the men of Chief Tobin's Transportation Shop. From weekly lubrication to major overhaul or new paint job, all work on 535's motor vehicles was their responsibility.

Standing, left to right: Haskel Sumrall, Robert Sessions, Jack Abernathy, William Schaffer and Francis Tobin.

Kneeling: Jacob Rosenblatt, James Shrader, Richard Carroll, William Van Dyke and Carl Luderman.



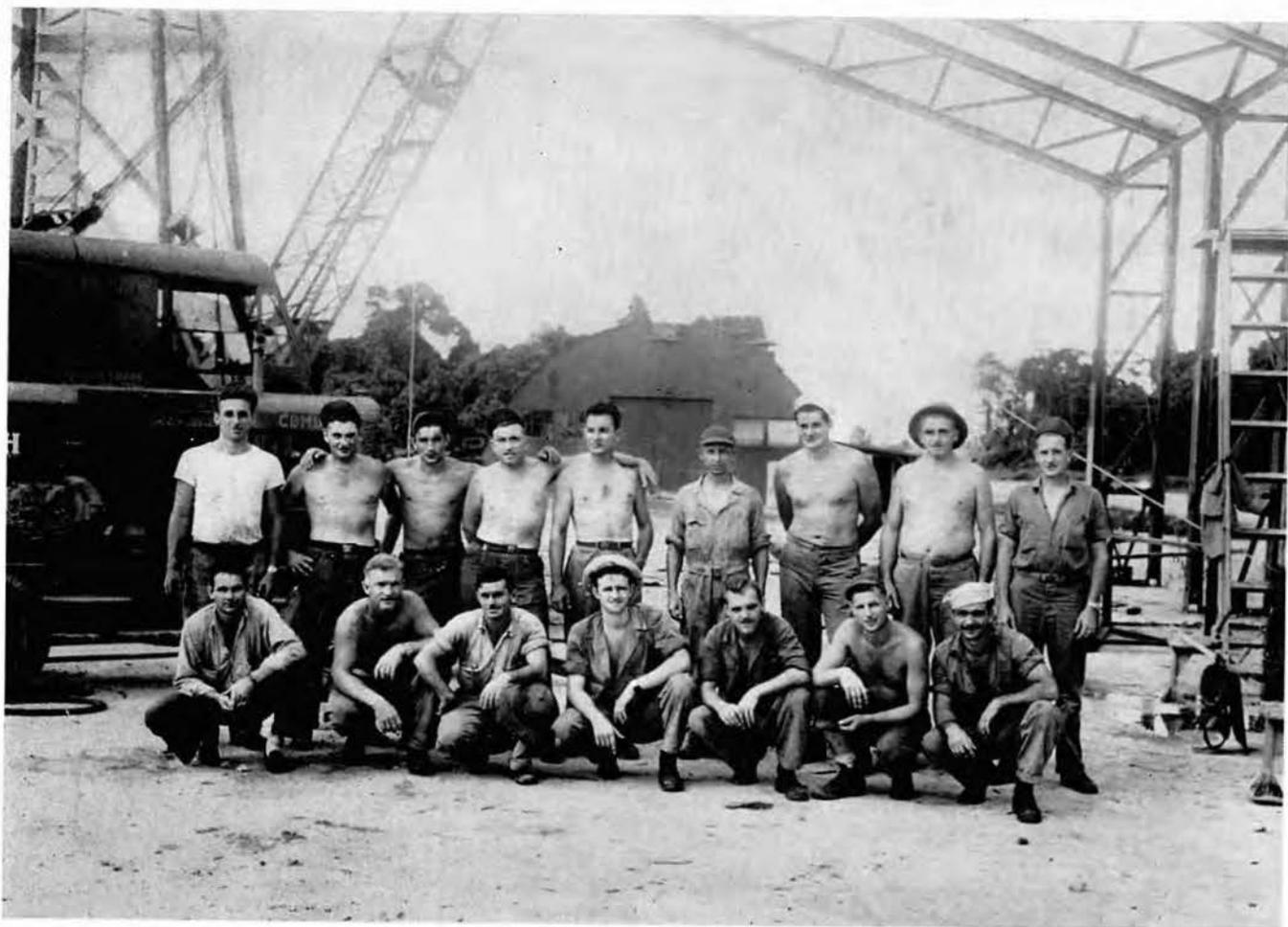
ERECTION AND DISMANTLING

The backbone of the Construction Battalions are its iron workers and riggers, its carpenters and builders. These are the men who built America in peacetime and the Road to Tokyo in wartime. These two pages are devoted to 535's "heavy construction" men. Chiefs Don L. Bron and John J. Carpenter were in charge, under the direction of Warrant Officer Christian B. Schillinger. (Chief Bron and W/O Schillinger's photos appear on other pages.)



Rear (left to right): James Harmon, Emil Zimmerman, Ennis Bradley, Marvin Weaver, Tom Cardone, Elliot Kuhne, Walter Burek, Clarence Grund, Wilmer Evans, Roy Anderson, Wayne Davis, Manuel Arenas, and Carl Hammes.

Front (left to right): Bernard Bonk, Edward Remillard, Irvin Rollison, Norman Williams, Ed Stitzer, Robert Hossack, Rafael Hernandez, Harvey Jergens, and Chet Straw.



Standing (left to right): John Weldin, Gordon McKenna, Raymond Rowe, Jack Stewart, Charlie Edgerton, Fred Larson, Ed Crain, Bob Ellyson, Leslie Wyatt. Kneeling: Roy Starke, Elwood Smith, James Jenkins, Lowell Moss, Ed Dehn, Charles Vestal, Tony Di Sessa.



Right: Leroy Adler, Harry Botsford, John Carpenter.



MAINTENANCE SHOPS
COMMISSARY
RECREATION

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER
"C" "A" STEPHENSON
UTILITIES MAINTENANCE OFFICER

SPECIALISTS in every field of mechanical and electrical maintenance, Chief Morgan's men handled any trouble call routed their way, with an ease and assurance that came of long familiarity with their trades.



DOCTOR OF MOTORS: in the motor rewinding shop, Earl Radmer could cure the ills of a 75 KW generator as easily as he could of a flea-power electric-shaver motor. More often, however, he worked on less extreme jobs, like the 1 1/2 HP motor shown on his bench.



THE LINE CREW still used civilized equipment for climbing, even after watching the natives' methods for so many months; but Dick Baird and "Lucky" Wilkerson could probably have climbed the pole native style, too.

Grounded are (left to right): John Potee, Bill Morgan and CWO "C" "A" Stephenson.

ELECTRICAL AND DIESEL

maintenance of anything from power generators and lines to a dentist's drill by these men helped build 535's reputation of dependability on the "rock."



Above, standing (left to right): Chief Bill Morgan, CWO "C" "A" Stephenson, Lester Ottenwalder, Fred Herr, "Lucky" Wilkerson, Charlie Stanley, Ken Tabor, John Potee, and Andres Vincent. Kneeling: Robert Byrum, James Pysz, Dick Baird and Lyman Robinson.



THE GENERATOR WATCH was responsible for the uninterrupted flow of power and light needed to operate the base. Chief Anding's men stood these important watches at all hours of day and night.

Above, standing (left to right): James McCarty, Malcolm Anding, Jack Wright, James Pysz, Fred Herr, Floyd Conarroe, and Leroy Troxclair. Kneeling: Lester Ottenwalder, Daniel France, Woodson Swope, Harry Taylor, Ralph Siebert and CWO "C" "A" Stephenson.



REFRIGERATION equipment, an important safeguard to the health and comfort on the islands, was the specialty of (right to left): Sylvan Duke, George Keplinger and Phil Berning.

To the men of 535, not the least of their importance was the supply of beer-cooling ice they ensured for recreational trips.

COMMUNICATIONS maintenance and operations were capably handled by 535's men under the direction of Chief Palmer.



Standing (left to right): CWO "C" "A" Stephenson, Lloyd Pascoe, Robert Hinton, Charles and Jesse Farewell, Paul Camilletti, Harry Sysol, and Bert Palmer. Kneeling, Paul Stratton, Larry Bartels, James Phillips, Russel Crawford and Bob Myers. Unavailable for this photo were: Winston Henley, Melvin Kauffman, and Dillon Perrine.



THE BOILER SHOP

Chief Murphy's boiler repair crew soon found that the chemical properties of the island's water supply made their maintenance problems more difficult than was expected.

Upper right: Gerald Murphy checks with Roger Lavigne on the finishing touches to a retubing job.

Lower right: Boilers to be retubed had to be temporarily replaced by an emergency rig. Chief Murphy's innovation of mounting a standard 15-h.p. boiler on a trailer cut replacement time to one-third.



Right: Claude Lelegko and Dick Burke pause in their work on a power panel, and (left to right) CWO "C" "A" Stephenson, Gerald Murphy, Albert Smith, and Roger Lavigne looks up a moment, while Charlie Miller keeps his eye on the tubing in the annealing furnace.



Below: Complementing the work of the Boiler Shop, repair and installation of all plumbing and pipe lines fell to Chief Barr's Pipe Shop. Left to right: John Tomlinson, CWO "C" "A" Stephenson, Ed Wilburn, John Whitehead and Dave Barr.



THE PIPE SHOP



SHEET METAL, WELDING, AND MACHINE SHOP



If "Can Do" hadn't been a by-word of the Seabees long before CBMU 535 saw the light of day, it could have originated in Chief Spanier's metal working shop. The men at the right are masters of improvisation and make ingenuity a habit.

Upper right, standing: Fred Larson, Joe Ryan, Earl Rich and Homer Spencer. Kneeling: Ralph Spanier, CWO "C" "A" Stephenson, Ralph Jewell and Emile Martin.

Lower right: the same crew, without supervision



"ORPHANS"



In addition to the maintenance work that comprised CBMU 535's duties, the unit supplied men for temporary duty with various Base Offices. These men, while directly responsible to the officers they were assigned to, were in no way relieved of duties to their command.

The photo at upper left shows John LeBar at his desk in the Base Disbursing Office.

In the bottom pictures are 535 men who held key positions on the Public Works Force. Lower left: Tim Kirk, Water Supply. Lower right, standing, left to right: Dwight Trawick, Electrical; Bert Palmer, Communications; Sam Hackel, Electrical; and Homer Duff, Supply Depot. Kneeling: Paul Stratton, Communications; Robert Brown, Administration; Niles Nylander, Engineering; and Paul Braden, Administration.

Absent on Assignment at the time: Dan Guentner, Refrigeration; Bob Golden and Wilson Turner, Engineering.

No photographs were available of the men assigned to the Base Ship's Service Store and to the Base Bakery, but Joe McCauley and James Neighbor deserve special mention for their services behind the counter, while Ed Sonntag merits a commendation for his supervision of the Base Bakery. Fred Starn was his able assistant.



What's Cookin'

—THE WEEK'S MENU IN BRIEF—

BREAKFAST

Mon. Juss
Scrambled DeHis
Hash & Tust

Tues. Juss
Bacon 'n Blankets
Joe

Wed. Chilled Apricots
Mit Patties
DeHi Chiz Omelette
Cawfee Cake, Joe

Thu. Proons
DeHis & Bacon
Tust & Butter
Joe

Fri. Tomato Juss
Hash 'n Blankets
Cinnamon Rolls
Joe

Sat. Chilled Piches
Baked Bins
French Tust
Joe

Sun. Juss
Bacon 'n Blankets
Joe

DINNER

Veg. Zup
Liver & Onyons
Lima Bins
Fruit Pie, Joe

Tomato Zup
G. I. Stoo
Chiz, Peas
Ice Crim
Cake & Lemonade

Biff Broth
Vienna Sausage
Bits & Lima Bins
Epple Butter, Joe

Tomato Zup
G. I. Hash
Mashed Spuds
Berled Cabbage (dehi)
Pich Cobbler
Lemonade

Veg. Zup
Salmon Salad
Potato Salad
Sliced Chiz
Cold Bins
Fruit Cocktail, Joe

Bin Zup
Mulligan Stoo
Corn & Chiz
Stimmed Rice—
Ice Cocoa

Crim Tomato Zup
Biff Stek (Ahh)
Potatoes & Gravy
Peas
Devil's Food Cake
Ice Crim
Joe

SUPPER

Rusta Biff
Mashed Spuds
Baked Bins
Pudd'n, Joe

Rusta Lam'
Bread Dress's
Baked Corn
Cramberry Sauce
Pudd'n, Joe

Mit Lrf
Onyon Gravy
Combination Sal
Berled Navy Bins
Fruit Cocktail
Cocoa

Rusta Lam'
Buttered Peas
Pickled Bits
Ice Crim & Fruts
Joe

Hamboigers & Onyons
Lima Bins
Berled Cabbage (DH)
Fruit Cocktail
Ice Tea

Berled Ham
Berled Spuds
Berled Spinach
Chef's Salad
Cookies & Joe

Kold Kuts
Welsh Rarebit
(Chiz on Tust)
Baked Bins (Navy)
Veg. Salad
Fruit Cocktail
Ice Tea



Those Sunday Dinner steaks were expertly cut by John De Gennaro and Troy Pennington under the watchful eyes of Chief Bevon.

Who's Cookin'?

If the steaks were sometimes tough, this galley crew was at least famous for the best spaghetti and meatballs on the island.

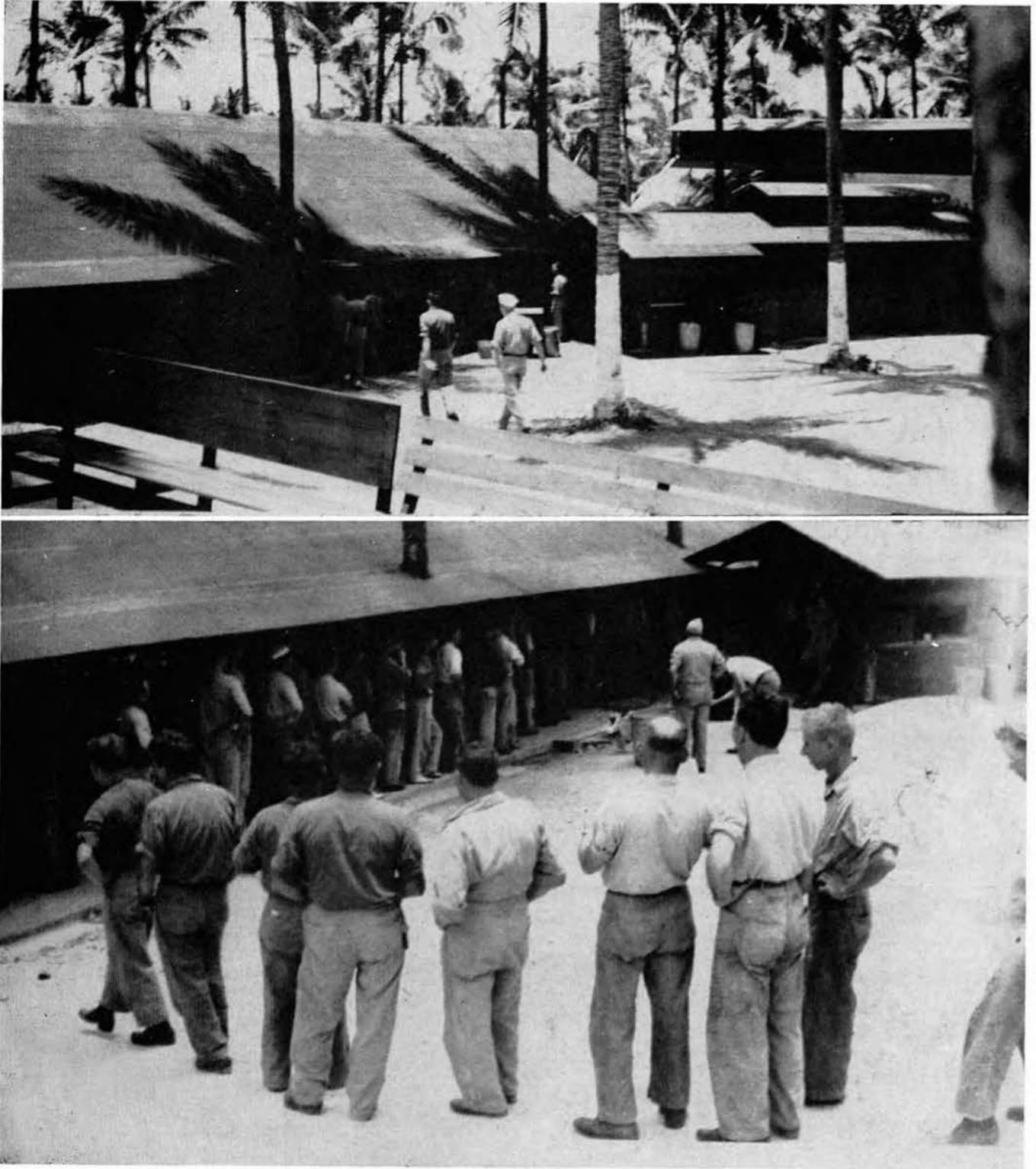
Left to right: "L" "B" Phillips
Joe Banovetz, Robert Nicolai,
Tom Bevon, Jimmy Boren, Dave
Pendleton, "Buck" Boese.





THE GENERAL MESS

Its spotless cleanliness was a matter of pride to the mess cooks of 535. Shown in the lower photo, right to left, are: Donald Shuttler, William Wallace and James Touhey; Extreme left, Christopher Kneipp, commissary storekeeper.



THE GROWTH OF A CHOW LINE

THANKSGIVING DAY 1944

For all its exclusiveness no luxurious decoration marked the interior of 535's chief's mess.



THE CHIEFS' MESS



Its "men in white" were rotated periodically. At the time of this photo they were (foreground, left to right): Wilton Tate, John Montalbano and John Lewis. Background (left to right): Buck Boese and Joe Uhelski.

Not in white are Chief Bevon, in charge, and Otto Wiedersberg, the general mess' M.A.A.



After-hours relaxation for the officers was provided in 535's palm-shaded club and mess.

THE OFFICERS' MESS

Taking their turn at helping maintain the pleasant atmosphere of the club are (left to right): Barney Wittmeyer, Freeman Weems, and Charlie Swanson.



THE REC HALL

From the outside, 535's recreation hall was just another tropical Quonset hut, but the interior was a triumph of Dewitt Determination. It was largely through the efforts of Grover Dewitt (shown with Chief Williams in upper photo, alone in lower photo) that the Rec Hall could boast of afternoon



movies for off-duty personnel, a well stocked library of books and recordings, a radio and record player, two ping-pong tables, athletic equipment and even a piano.

In the interior view, the beer cooling reefer can be seen at the right rear of the hut just behind the "bar." There was no on-premises consumption however. The two bottles of beer which were issued to each man three times a week could be drunk in his tent at his leisure that evening.



The reefer also served the added purposes of cooling drinking water and conditioning the air in the recreation hall. Through the efforts of the refrigeration maintenance crew, 535 boasted the only air conditioned Rec Hall on the island.

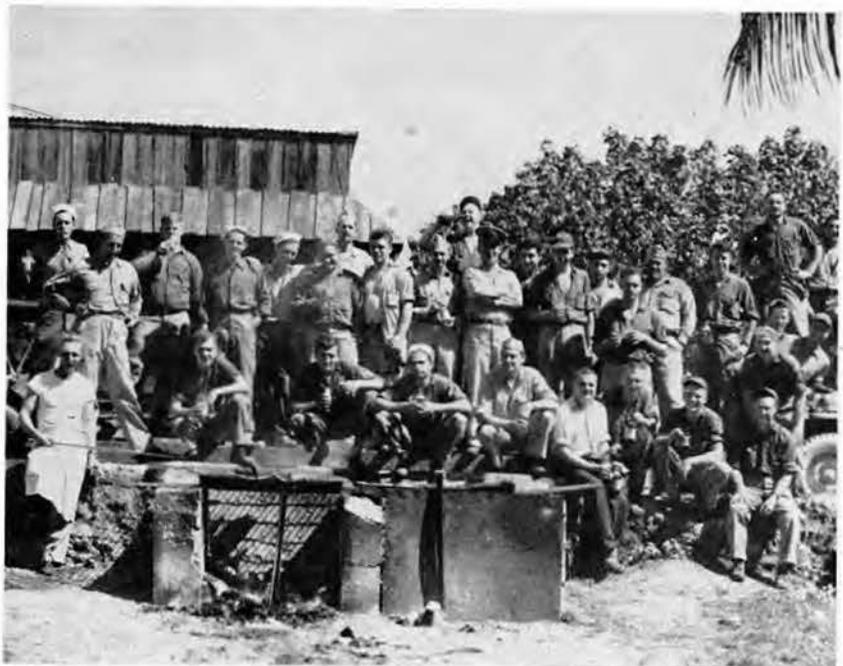
MOVIES AND BARBECUES

Most popular entertainment feature on the island was the movies. It didn't matter how good or bad the show or how late or ancient the film; under a clear sky or a torrential rain, Hollywood always played to a packed house. The photo at the upper right is a daylight view of the theater operated by 535. The shows started soon after sundown and those that arrived early were usually treated to as beautiful a sunset as they would ever see.

On clear nights when a full moon shone overhead, its light all but blotted out the image on the screen.

Two 35-mm. projectors made a continuous show possible, but it was the unenviable task of Jack Aker, the unit's projectionist, to keep the show running without a break.

The picture below was taken at 535's first picnic-barbecue. With plenty to eat and plenty of beer, it turned out to be a memorable afternoon. Though smaller outings of the same kind were held often in the months following, none came up to the first one for sheer exuberance.



BASEBALL

Manager Stevens' hardball team was a hard luck outfit. At first practices couldn't be held or games scheduled regularly because the men couldn't be released from essential duties, and when finally the team did break into the Island Circuit, it kept losing by a series of one-run-behind heartbreakers. All their games, however, were tight, heads-up baseball. In the photo at the upper left (opposite page), standing: Norman Williams, Fred Peyroux, Jack Stewart, Perce Tramel, Tommy Wall, Danny Bellanca, and Virgil Lee.

Second row: Claude Stevens, Elwood Smith, Joe Uhelski, Raymond Rowe, and Winston Henley.

Front row: Dillon Perrine, Gordon McKenna, Jim Jenkins, Stan Klonowski, Ken Taber and Benny Mueller.



SOFTBALL

The softball team fared better in the Island Softball League, losing out only in the final play-offs. They set an enviable record of 23 wins in 28 games played during the season.

The Winning Line-Up

Catcher: Lee

First Base: Smith

Shortfield: Klonowski

Second Base: Huston

Leftfield: Wall

Shortstop: Taber

Centerfield: Rowe, Mueller

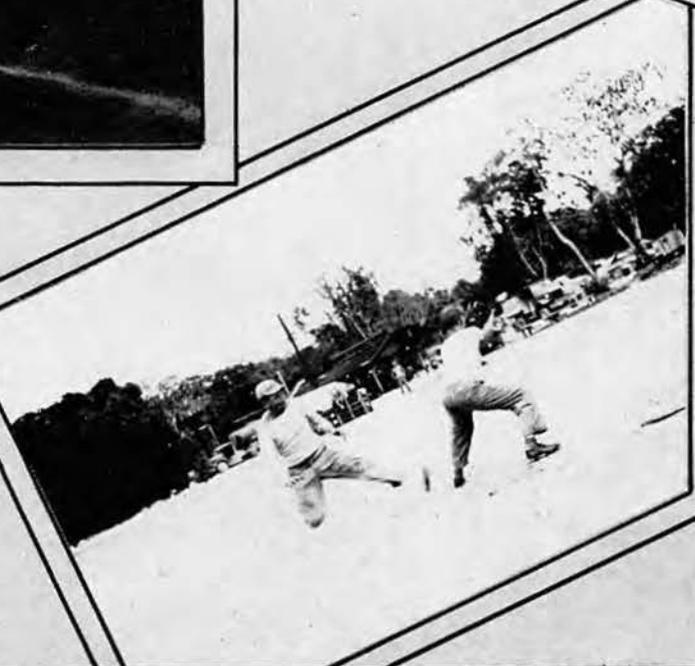
Third Base: Henley

Rightfield: Wiedersberg

Pitchers: Phillips, Bellanca

Manager: Phillips

Honors for high batting average went to Elwood Smith, with a .466 average for the league season.



THE NEW HEBRIDES NATIVE

(Reprinted with revisions from the Base weekly publication.)

Steadily increasing white influence in the New Hebrides Group from the years 1700 to 1940 tended only to drive the red-headed, squatty native further into the unexplored interiors of the islands, where, in spite of diseases which have annihilated families, tribes, and sometimes entire populations of islands, they have preserved the customs and modes of their primitive heathen existence.

Today, descending from the mountains through sinuous jungle trails, natives hesitantly venture forth, some of whom have never before seen the ocean, to perceive the white man and his embroiled civilization. He does not remain long; for the hill-people soon tire of the jam of jeeps, trucks, and bulldozers, and the confusing tumult of America at war.

Back over the trails, dressed in little more than a Seabee's white hat traded for some tribal artistry, with possibly a pair of worn G.I. shoes slung over his shoulder, he trudges barefoot for miles, satisfied now with the one big achievement of his life.

His village, upon his return is the same as when he left: huts with low, inclining thatched roofs, scattered in irregular pattern; the garden with yams already ripe; the pigs, a woman suckling one; the children dressed only in their uncivilized modesty; a dog, sniffing for any stray scrap; the "gamal," still the haven of his secret society; all bring him back to the familiar life he covets.

Ever since childhood, his life had been made up of the rituals, feasts and dances which culminate each phase of the islander's social existence. When he was ten, he was circumcised and entered into the secret "Qatu" society

where for thirty days he was ruthlessly beaten, callously trampled upon, mercilessly stoned, unrelentlessly ridiculed, then confined to solitude.

But he emerged a man, with body tattooed and nose and ear pierced. He donned the customary "wrapper" of a man and was ready to become part of the social community and perhaps to buy himself a wife.

Everything in his economy is based on pigs. Pigs are money and power; they are his existence.

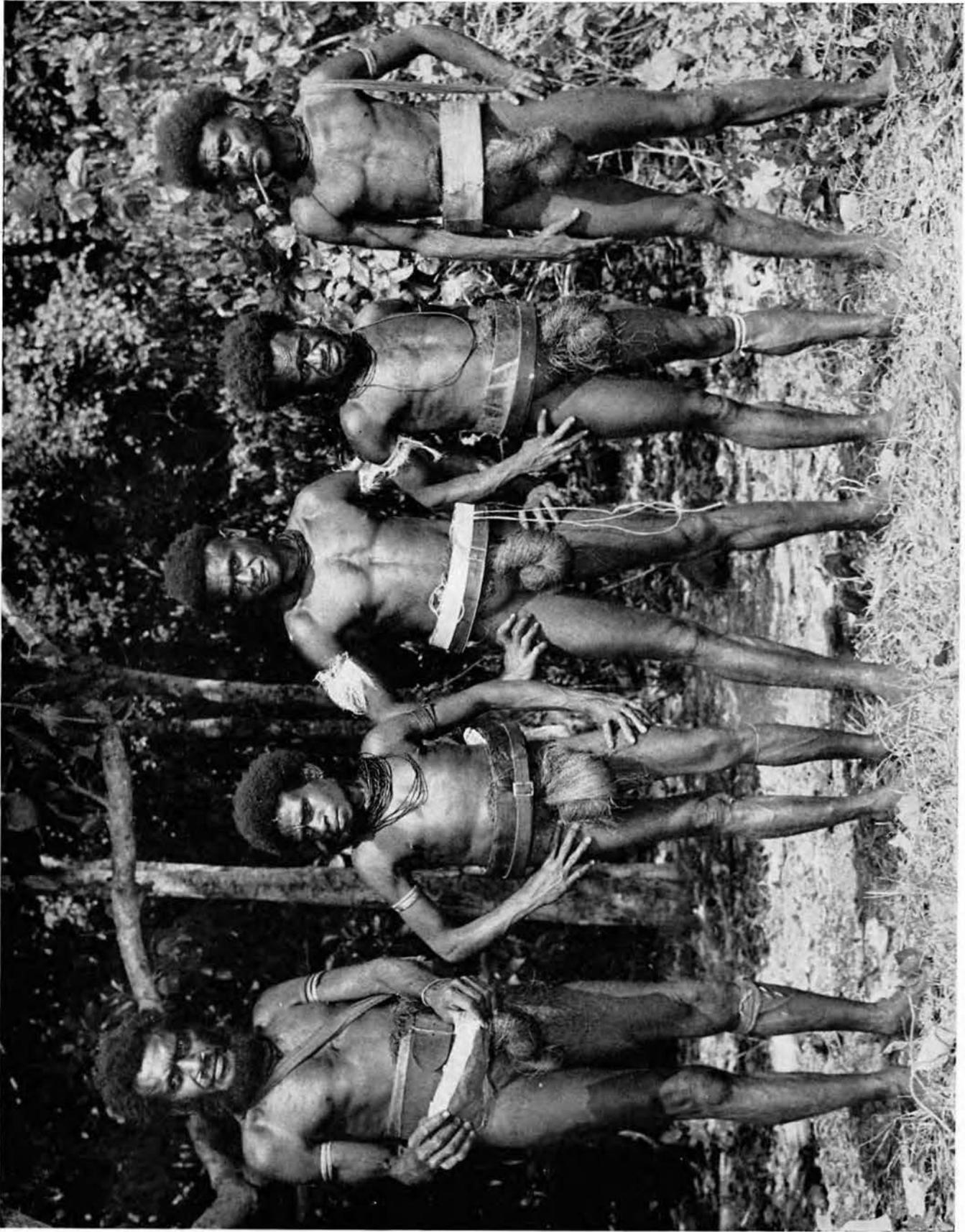
So, although he was only fifteen, he paid six pigs to buy a 35-year-old wife. (The younger girls can only be afforded by the elderly men.)

For years he has saved, traded, lent with interest, and reared his pigs. His days have been happy ones of late awakening, hearty eating, occasional hunting and fishing, exotic dancing, nightly "Kava" tippling, and early morning retiring.

The woman, on the other hand, lives a life of hard work and drudgery. She must bear children, care for and nurse the pigs, tend the garden, and prepare the meals.

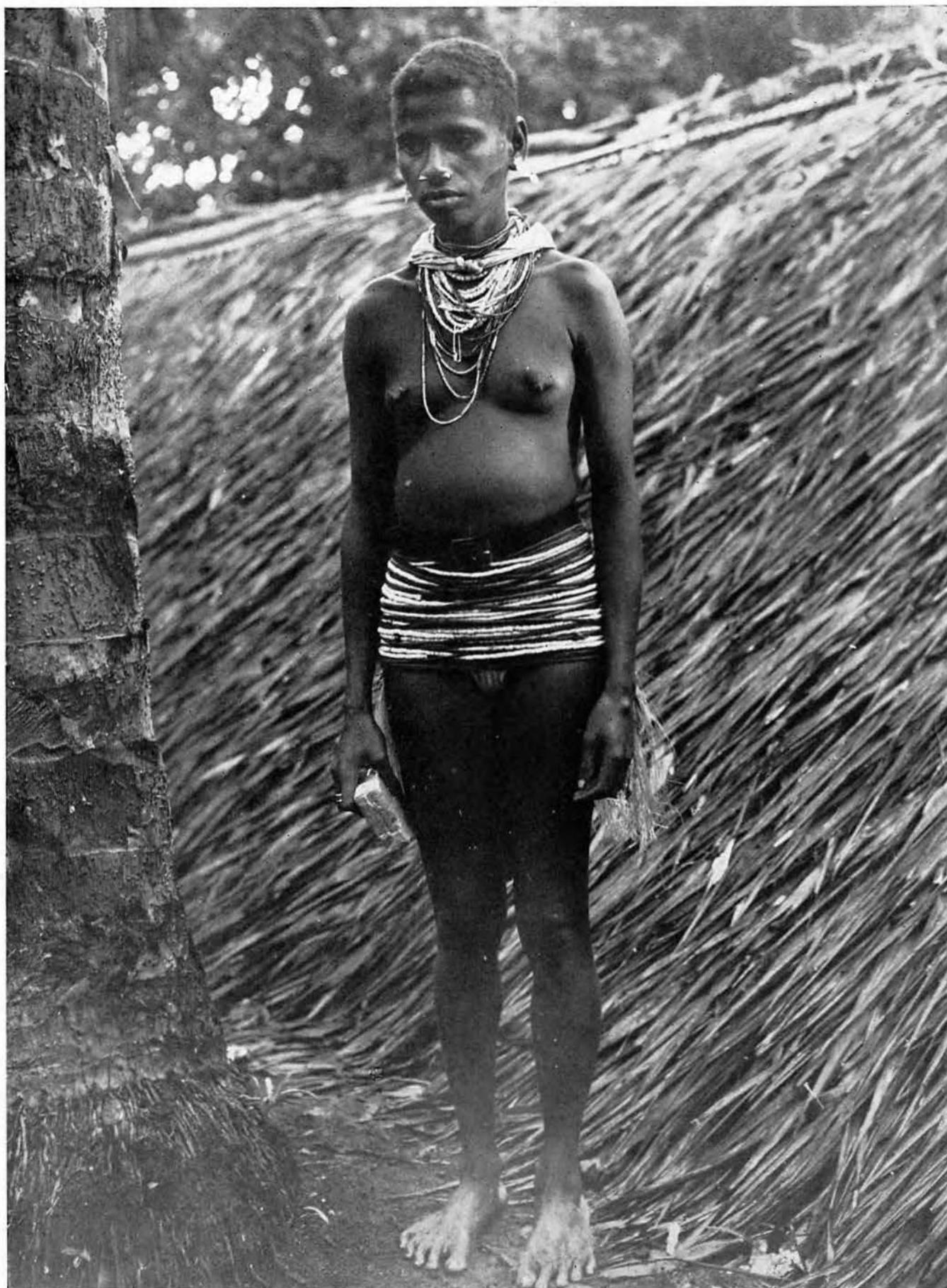
Our returning native has reached an age where he now has become socially distinguished, but in a few years will find himself ready to pass on. When he feels that his time is near, he will announce his "dance of death." For hours, he will dance until the last of his strength is drained from his body and he drops in exhaustion, never to rise in his familiar world again.

The story of white influence in the New Hebrides has been recorded in two centuries of greed, exploitation, and killing. Only those natives who have been able to live their simple lives of lassitude, deep in the inaccessible jungle, have been able to survive.



MEN OF THE "BIG NAMBAS" TRIBE, NEW HEBRIDES GROUP

"He donned the customary wrapper. . . ."



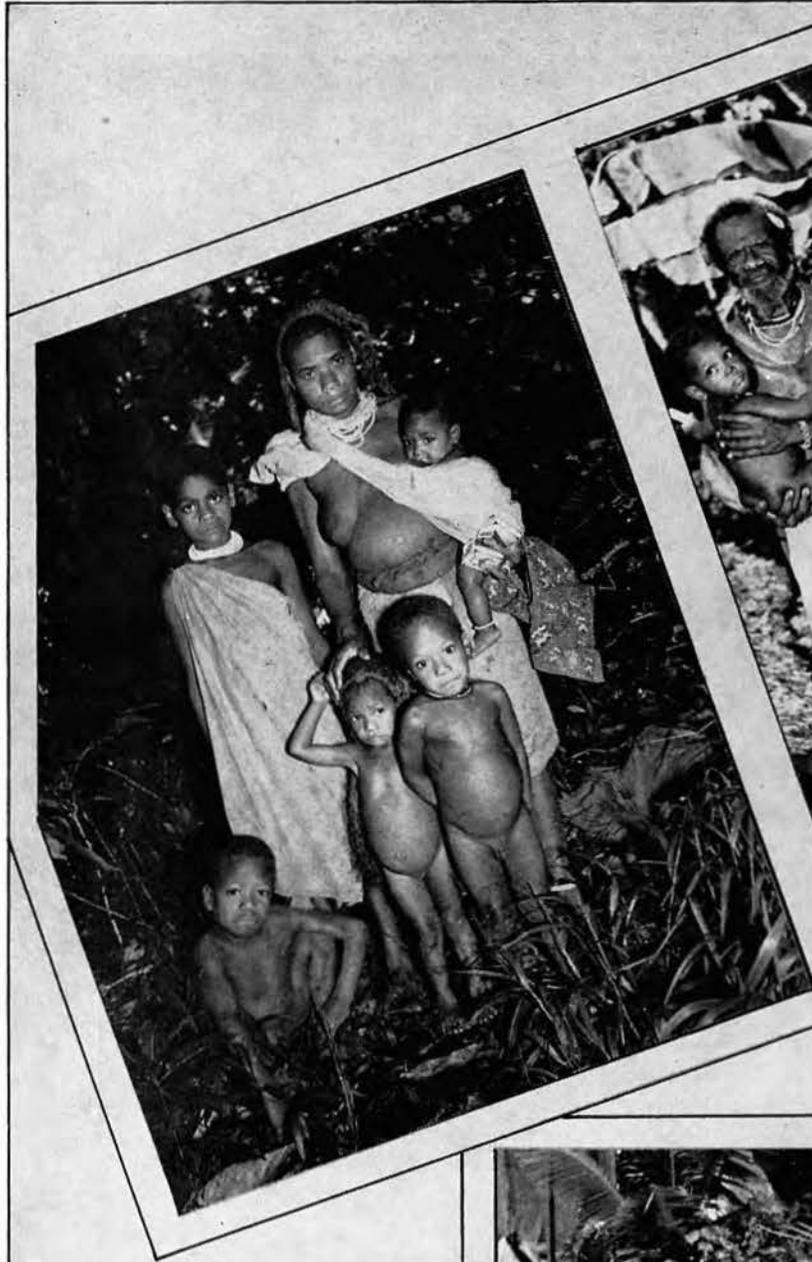
NEW HEBRIDES PIN-UP

Thirteen Pigs? . . . "can only be afforded by the elderly men."



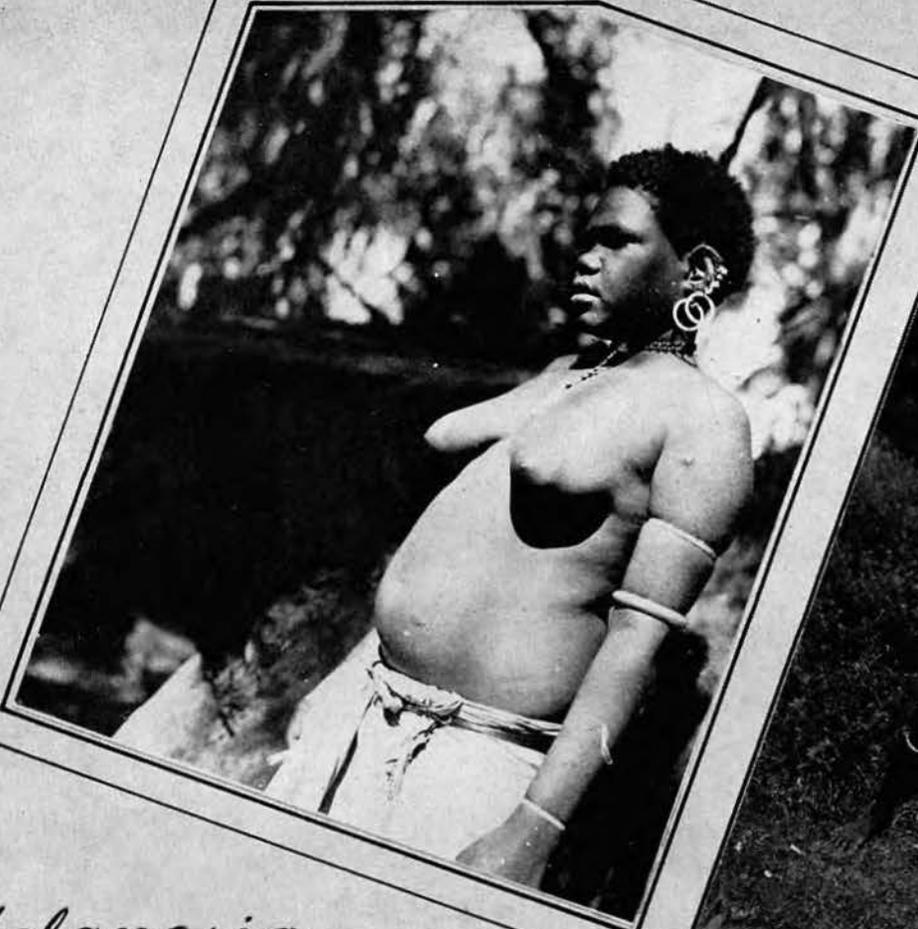
FAMILY GROUP

"She must . . . care for and nurse the pigs, tend the garden."



Glimpses





Melanesia

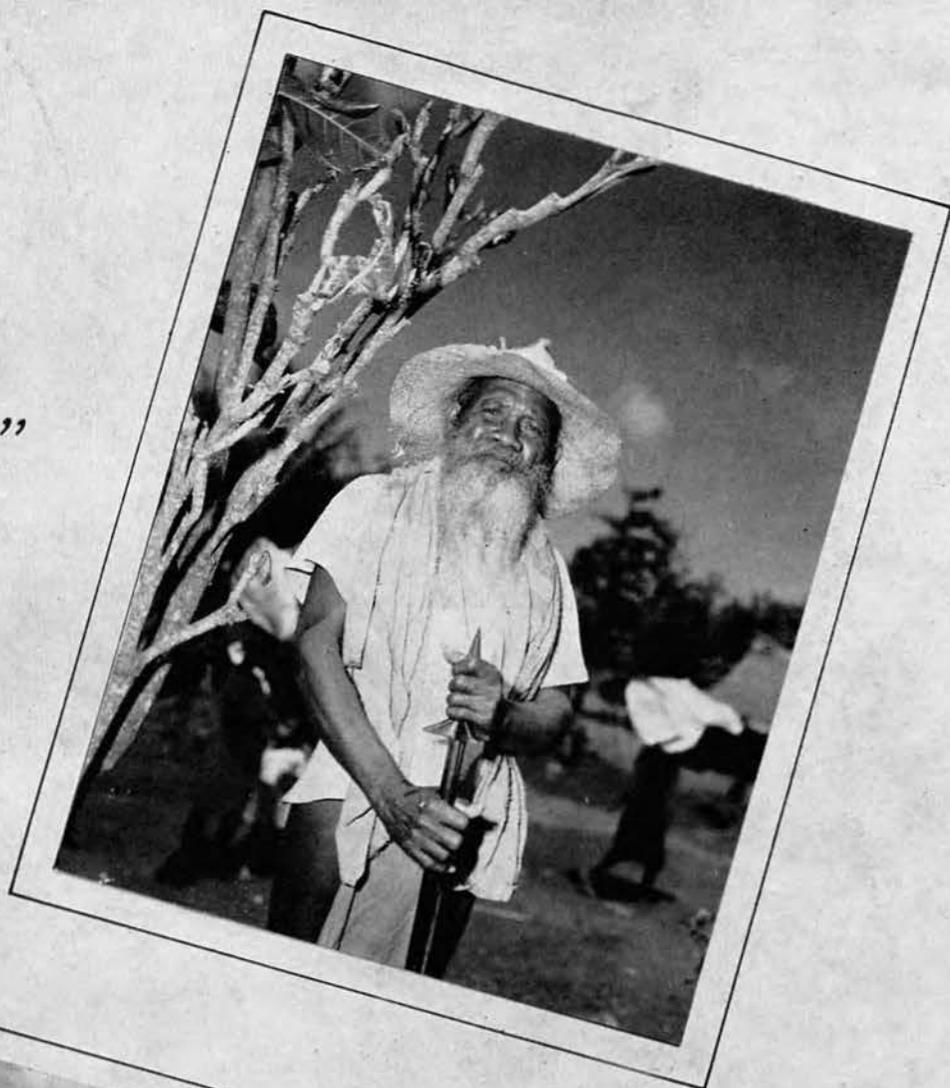


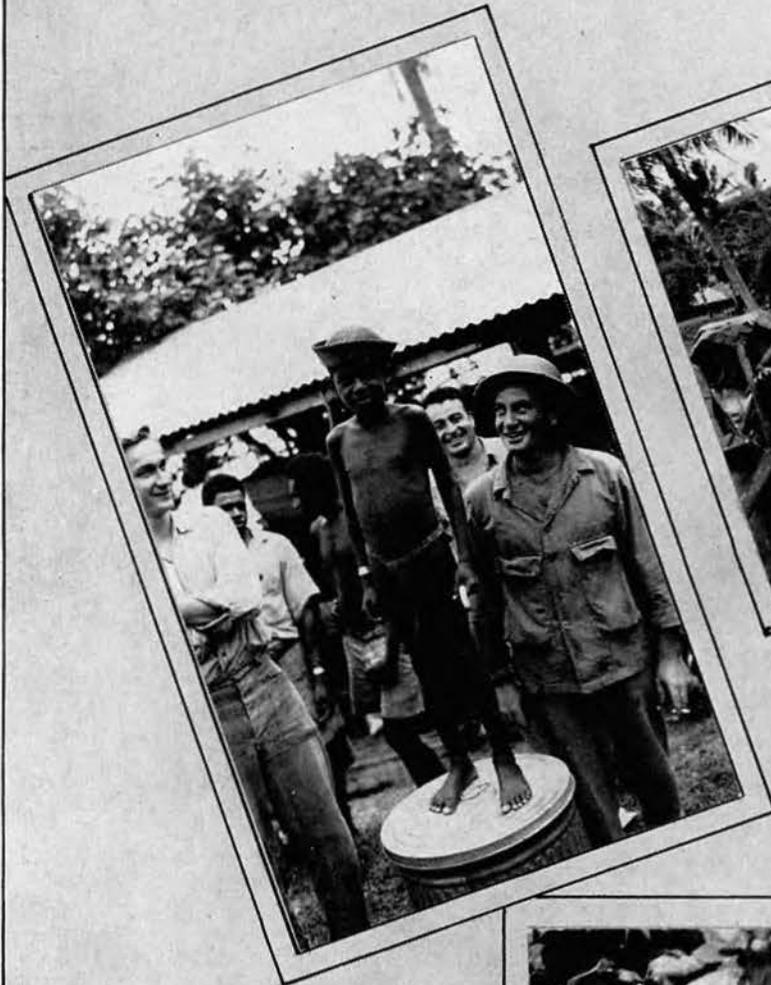


South
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Gras "*





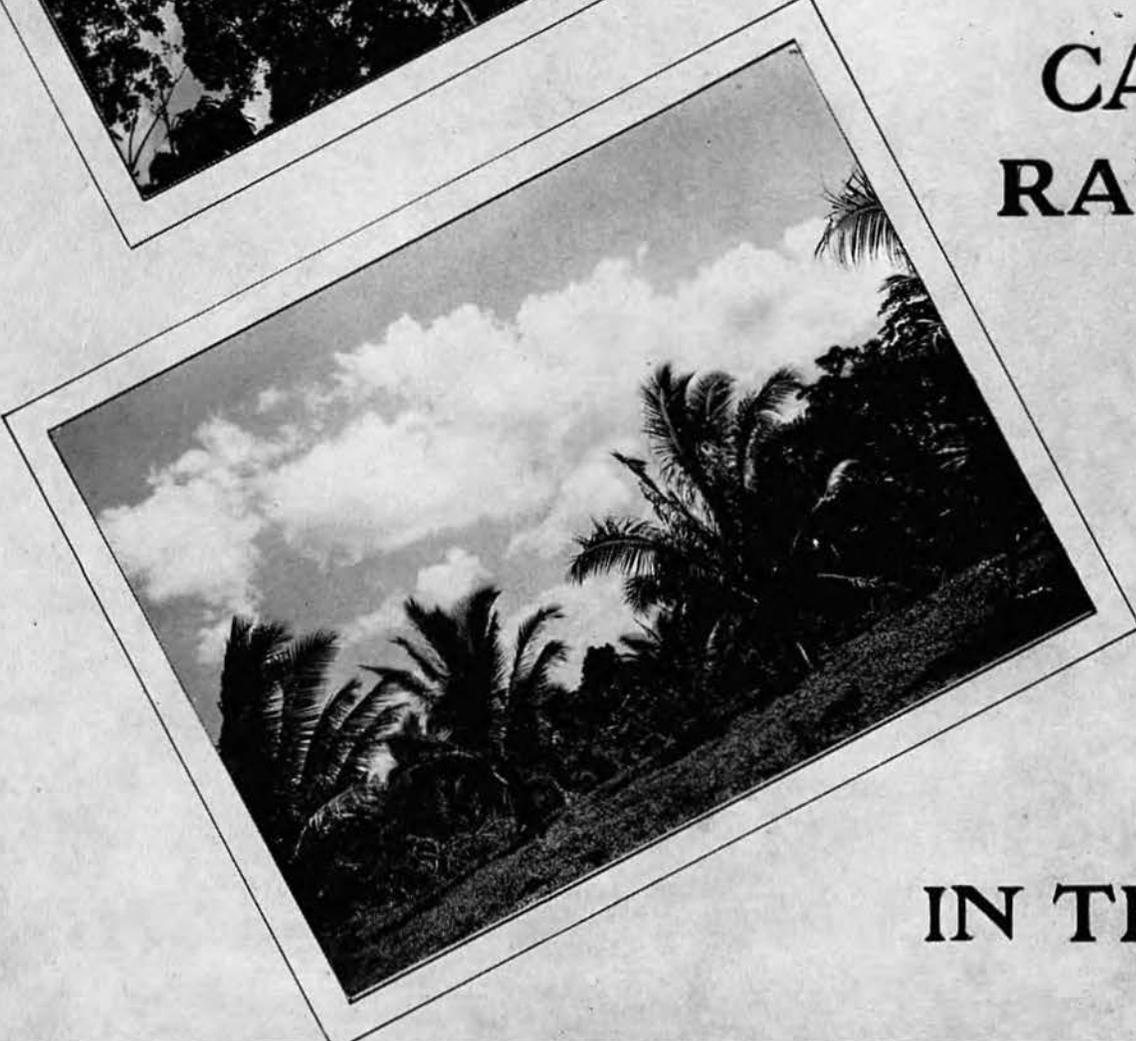
Sunday





Excursion





CAN
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IN THE



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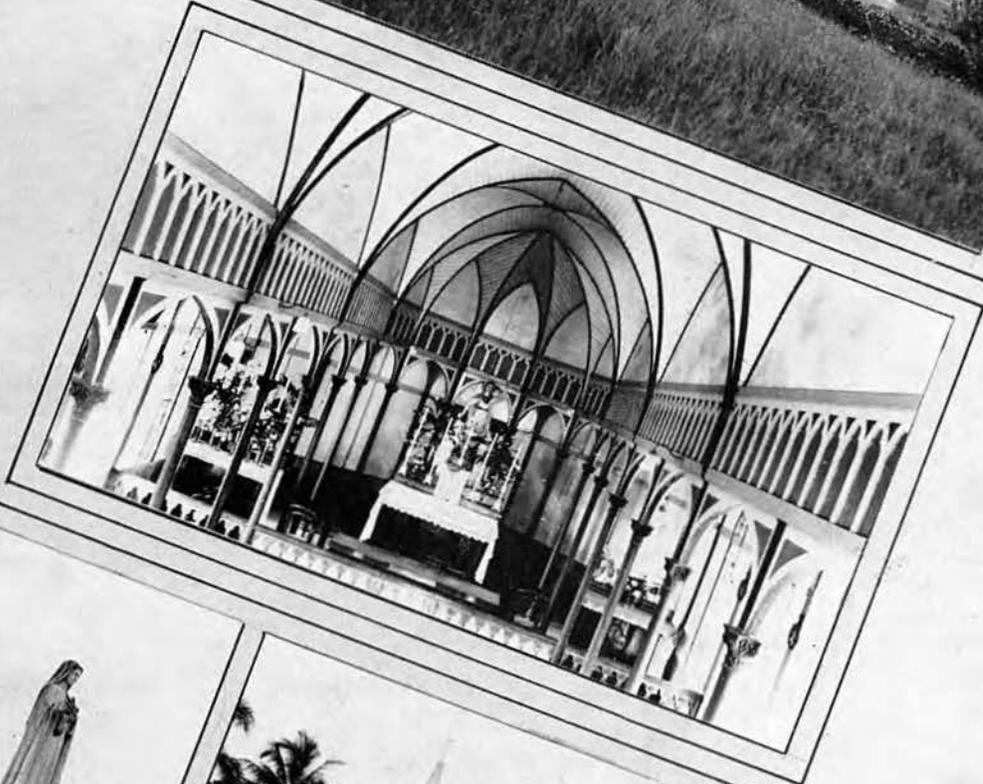
SLANDS



SNAP



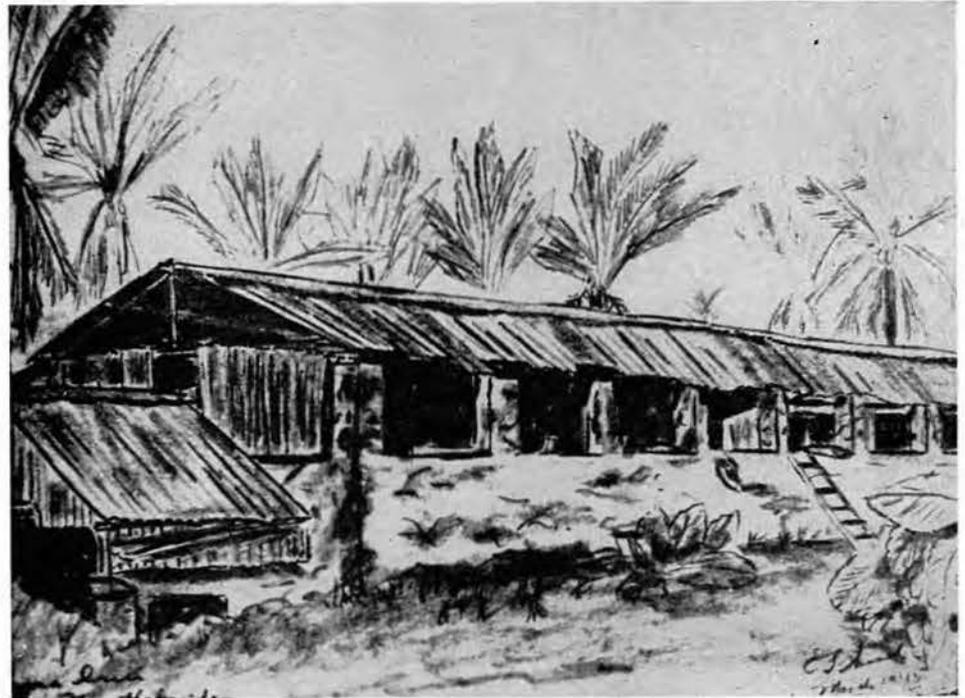
THE
NATIVE
TONKINESE



SHOTS



THE FRENCH INFLUENCE



COPRA DRIER, by Lt. Carlton L. Wood, USNR



FRENCH HOSPITAL, by 2nd Lieut. Valerie A. Czanderna (A.N.C.)



CAMP LIFE, by Raymond A. Woita, SKD3c, USNR



TONKINESE HUT, by Ensign Paul E. Nickels, USNR



NEW ARRIVALS
AT PRESS TIME

(LEFT)

ENS. ROBERT J. HERRON



(RIGHT)

ENS. FRANK B. CLENDENEN

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