

STATION  
DUCTION

the  
79th  
SEABEES

Jon W. Finney





**THE**  
**SEVENTY-NINTH**  
**UNITED STATES NAVAL**  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
**BATTALION**







# Foreword

THERE have been many times in our lives when we have looked back and wished that some events had been recorded for our permanent enjoyment. An account of our experience with the 79th Construction Battalion we would like to preserve for the future. Right now we are too busy really to enjoy all the things that we are doing. One of the best ways to preserve these memories is through the medium of pictures, so we have made them a feature of this book.

We hope that this volume will bring back to us the good times and pleasant associations we have had during this tour of duty. Of course every detail of our cruise cannot be included, but an attempt has been made to picture some representative part of every activity in the battalion, and to print, at least once, the picture of every man. This is a history of our first Island X and the things we did here.

This book will also serve as a contact with each other in future years, and for that reason the name and address of each man in the Battalion has been published. The scenery is typical of our area and areas adjacent to where we lived. The editors have tried to include everything that is familiar to us, and have even published the most popular "pin-ups" of the Battalion—"Our Children." There are a few men who have worked diligently on the publication of this book and it is proper that they be commended for their fine work. Lt. (jg) Joe Demeter, assisted by Chief H. C. Doty, originally began the voluminous work of planning and gathering material for this publication. Harvey Freestone did all of the art work, while E. W. "Pop" Haden and Edwin McDermott handled the photography. Maurice Settle wrote the Battalion history and Johnny Noel compiled all statistics and typed all copy. Lt. (jg) G. C. Thomas and others furnished many constructive suggestions. An expression of our appreciation is extended to our Officer-in-Charge, Lt. Comdr. A. T. Brown, for his cooperation and permission to publish this book.

W. R. KRAMER, *Editor*

May 1944

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A decorative border of blue stars surrounds the title. There are two rows of stars, each containing nine stars. The top row is above the title, and the bottom row is below it.

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LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ALEC T. BROWN  
OFFICER IN CHARGE



THE CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS were formed as the direct outgrowth of the need for building and maintaining Naval Shore establishments for servicing the fighting forces of the Navy and their auxiliaries. At the outbreak of the present war it was found that civilian contractor organizations were unsuited to work outside the continental limits of the U. S., particularly in areas of combat. So the now famous Seabees were originated; first on a limited trial scale, and later increased to their present strength of approximately a quarter million officers and men.

The Seventy-Ninth Battalion was activated about midway of the expansion program, and after training took its place among the battalions serving in the Alaskan Sector. At first we were assigned to an existing Construction Regiment, but were soon detached and assigned to base maintenance with the additional responsibility of completing a construction program. This arrangement gave us a definite work program and placed the responsibility of its prosecution squarely up to the battalion.

A brief discussion of the problems involved in the battalion's functioning and the nature of their solutions is in order. First and foremost the battalion's internal organization had to be set up to function smoothly in order that the job at hand could receive maximum manpower and effort. Fortunately most of the groundwork of organization had been accomplished before arriving at the advanced base. However, there was still the problem of placing the proper men in the proper assignments. The organization for continued military training had to be set up, and the training program fitted in to work assignments in such a manner as to permit maximum training and minimum of conflict with the work. Also various activities necessary for the internal functioning of the battalion had to be organized and developed. In all of these activities, the Officer-in-Charge has delegated responsibility and authority freely and has been rewarded by excellent results. Almost without exception the personnel of the battalion has shown a willingness to undertake any and all jobs with a determined spirit and have exhibited the necessary skill and knowledge to successfully accomplish the end in view. Rewards for the energy and efficiency of the individual men have been made in the form of advancements in rating. These necessarily had to be within a specific allowance and some deserving advancements could not be given.

The Officer-in-Charge is confident that the general average of the 79th Battalion, measured by ability, conscientious devotion to duty and the successful prosecution of the work assignment, is among the highest in all the Seabee organization. It is realized that this is a very broad statement, especially when one considers the very high standard set by many other battalions. We have reason to be proud that we have served with a degree of efficiency that upholds the high regard in which the construction battalions are held by the forces afloat and by other branches of the armed services.



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER VICTOR A. VOLLMER  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

THIS VOLUME records our daily activities during a period when we were separated from our families and those home ties which mean so much to everyone of us. During this period, fortunately, our experience to a large extent was lacking in the element of danger, and our hardships were less rugged than those seen by many in the armed forces. It was necessary, however, that we adapt ourselves to new surroundings, new climatic conditions and new associations; that we develop teamwork in the performance of our daily tasks, comradeship in our recreational activities and a spirit of fair play at all times in our attitude toward one another.

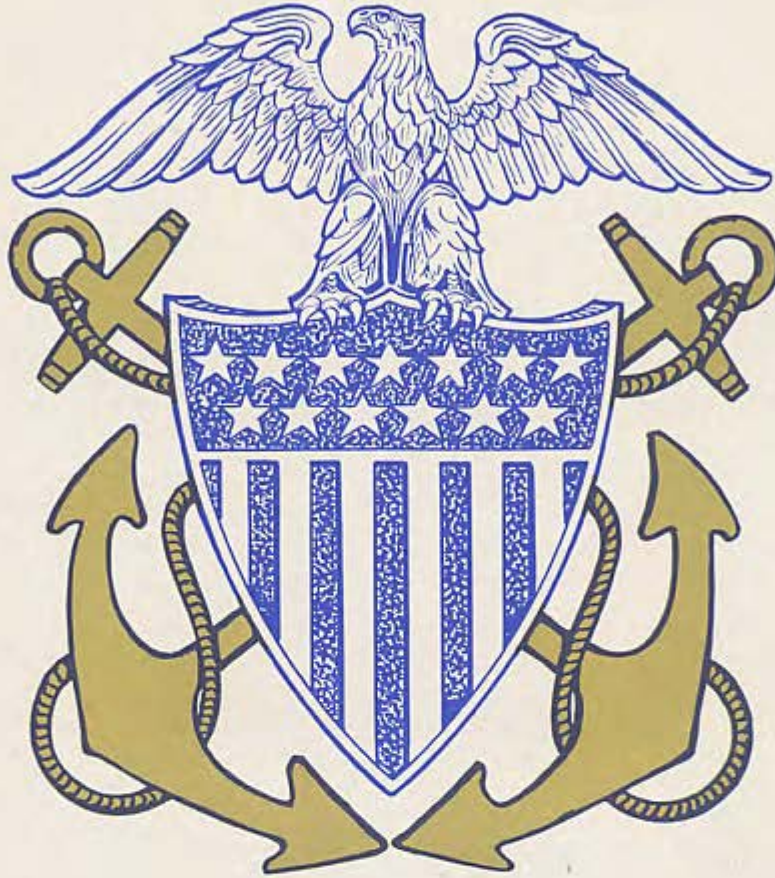
The knitting together of our battalion, composed of approximately 1100 officers and men of varied education, experience and background, into a military construction unit was started at Camp Bradford. This process of training, outfitting, and development was continued at Gulfport and Hueneme, and finally we as a battalion were brought to a high degree of efficiency at our Island "X" in Alaska.

In the following pages are sketched the ac-

tivities of the various departments which functioned to make our accomplishments possible. Our achievements were of course made possible by the program and organization worked out by the Navy, but the success we obtained was also dependent to a large extent upon the cooperation and teamwork which was developed between the officers and men.

On behalf of those who did not have a part in the preparation of this volume I wish to express our appreciation to those who did. The art work, photography and text which appear in the following pages are contributions of which we are proud, and which we feel certain will serve to keep alive the spirit of the 79th Battalion long after we have been mustered out of the service. We are deeply appreciative of the fact that this history has been made possible through the vision, interest and sincere efforts of our Officer-in-Charge and those who assisted him.

V. A. VOLLMER  
Lt. Comdr. CEC-V(S), USNR  
Executive Officer



# *Departments*

OFFICER OF THE DAY

MEDICAL

PERSONNEL

SUPPLY AND DISBURSING

MILITARY AND ORDNANCE

CHAPLAIN

WELFARE



Lt. (jg) W. R. Kramer

# OFFICER ★ OF THE ★ DAY



Warrant Officer J. W. Cox

**T**HE OFFICER OF THE DAY in a construction battalion is the Assistant to the Executive Officer. It is his duty to carry on the battalion functions in the absence of the Commanding Officer and the Executive Officer. It is also his duty to provide for the safety and security of battalion personnel, which is done through the battalion Master-at-Arms force and the Fire Watch. He makes a daily inspection of the galleys and living quarters of the men.

The Officer of the Day must keep a log of the activities of the Battalion and must record all information pertinent thereto. His office personnel is on duty twenty-four hours a day. Lt. F. X. Carlin was O.O.D. for approximately the first three months of our tour of duty. He was relieved by Lt.(jg) W. R. Kramer, who continued for the next eight months until relieved by Warrant Officer J. W. Cox.



Warrant Officer  
R. J. MacDonald



J. A. Braton, CBM



E. R. Kohler, CCM



G. D. Brosseau, CMM



L. Seeley, CCM



**BATTALION M. A. A.'s**

*(top row left to right)* D. J. Pericone, A. G. Edelmann, H. M. Gilmore, J. E. Jennings.

*(bottom row)* R. P. Fitzpatrick, L. D. Anderson, Chief R. E. Jones, C. R. Forster.

*(lower picture)* The Fire Guard, always on patrol throughout the Battalion area, whatever the weather.



Lt. J. T. Armstrong, MC



Lt. Comdr. B. S. Androsky, MC



Lt. Comdr. R. S. Hess, DC



# MEDICAL



**P**ROBABLY EVERYONE has heard the expression, "The first hundred years are the hardest." The Medical Department of the 79th can bear out that statement. The amount of equipment we had at the first was inadequate. Our first job was to start "borrowing" to accumulate enough medical supplies and equipment to set up the first "sick bay." Instruments were obtained from all over. In fact one was even "borrowed" from as far away as Washington, D. C. The department finally got enough things together to begin some real work.

The officers and corpsmen worked diligently and consistently for as much as eighteen hours a day for approximately six weeks during the "cat fever" epidemic at Camp Bradford. All throughout boot training, officers and corpsmen constantly guarded the health of the men. The officers of the department cannot express too emphatically their appreciation for the work of these pharmacist mates.

The record of the Medical Department is one of which we are proud. Throughout our tour of duty there have not been any deaths in the battalion. The department has never been "too busy" to take care of the most minor ailment of any man, and many times has made many suggestions and recommendations for improvement of eating and living conditions to further benefit the health of officers and men.

Our Doctors have not singled out any one man for praise, but have extended credit to all for their work. The men of the Battalion are proud to serve with them and we know that they are one of the finest Medical units ever assembled.



Dr. R. S. Hess examining one of his many patients. He has had approximately 5,000 chair sittings during the first year with the 79th.



**CORPSMEN OF THE 79th BATTALION**

(top row left to right) R. H. Keeton, G. Rowe, P. P. Kozik.  
 (middle row) E. M. Bailey and A. P. Calloway.  
 (bottom row) R. L. Hudgens, H. E. McKnight, R. G. Mosley.



Once a year "booster" shots were given for typhoid and tetanus, under supervision of the Battalion Doctors.





Lt. (jg) J. P. Demeter

# PERSONNEL



ON THE 28TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1943, the Personnel Office of the 79th Battalion was organized and assigned to the tremendous task of setting up records for the entire battalion. Quoting from the Gunnery Instructions of the Navy: "Of far greater importance to officers than the material or tools committed to their charge is the personnel with which they are concerned." The direct responsibility for the handling of personnel records is that of the Executive Officer, who through the medium of the Personnel Officer, will see they are properly and accurately kept.

Under the direction of Lt. (jg) Joseph P. Demeter, Personnel Officer, the crew of Chief Yeoman H. C. Doty, Chief Yeoman Robert P. Barnes, Maurice Settle, Benjamin Hansen, Kenneth Kamberg, Roy Kamberg, Thomas Prenderville, Philip Meysman, Paul Duty, Earl Adams, and Robert Favre, began work. All had completed courses in the Yeoman Training School at Camp Bradford, Virginia, under the tutorship of Chief Doty, then instructor of the school, and were hand picked for the new assignment. The aim of the department is to maintain an organization that will operate smoothly and efficiently regardless of conditions. A very definite attempt was made to standardize the procedure in all departments as much as possible toward the end that every man in the department would be able to familiarize himself with all of the many and varied details of departmental operation—even though the individual himself was perhaps con-

finied to the proper execution of minor details in his section. The maintaining of the records for the individual is the major function of this office. In this connection, twelve separate records are maintained continuously for each man. At any time he can secure any information desired about his service life. Allowances for dependents, insurance, longevity, reratings, liberty and leaves are all handled. No small function is the handling of the mast actions and courts and boards details, and the related furnishing of legal advice to the battalion personnel as needed.

Upon arrival at Island "X" the department faced the task of assignment of the personnel to the various projects. This again required the maintenance of voluminous and up-to-the-minute records of each man. The cooperation of the department heads and the men themselves made this a pleasant task.

With typical Seabee ingenuity Roy Kamberg and Paul Duty repaired and brought into service a discarded mimeograph machine. This plant did a rushing business throughout the day dispensing all kinds of departmental memoranda, orders, forms, invitations, and records for the entire base, not to mention the daily PLAN OF THE DAY and the popular weekly publication—THE MAINTAINER. The staff of these publications was largely made up of yeomen from the Personnel Office. Through the medium of the MAINTAINER, the folks at home were kept informed of our activities.



(upper) Personnel Office: Roy Kamberg and John Noel talk things over— Ben Hansen, Maurice Settle and Paul Duty in the background.

(lower) Paul Duty and Roy Kamberg printing the Maintainer—this is the "contraption" they worked hours to put together.



Lt. (jg) M. L. Levin

# SUPPLY



# DISBURSING



Lt. (jg) T. M. Hannan



Ensign H. L. Hensel

**T**HE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT furnishes the men with their clothing, tools, meals and money. As each of these items affects the every day living of all the men, it is no wonder that the morale and work output of the battalion depends to a large extent on how well the Supply Department functions.

In the case of our battalion the "Can Do" motto was carried out in every respect. The "supply" branch of the department often worked day and night obtaining and issuing the tools and the foul weather gear that was so necessary in the North. It was a long pull from stocks of unknown material on a beach to an orderly warehouse, but the Supply Department took it in stride.

The Commissary branch is justly proud of the fact that regardless of conditions, members of the 79th Battalion never missed a meal. They also should be proud of the quality of food served, and the many free extras given the men such as Sunday night hamburgers, popcorn, candy, etc. It can be safely said that very few, if any, CB Battalions received better food than the 79th.

The Disbursing Office had its share of difficulties among them, paying \$80,000.00 on each pay day, and trying to help the men with their financial and domestic problems. However, here again the "Can Do" spirit prevailed, and an efficient business organization soon developed with many satisfied customers. In fact, twice a month the Disbursing Office was the most popular place in the Battalion.

All members of the Supply Department deserve a vote of thanks for their help in making these accomplishments possible. The officers in charge of the Supply Department are Lt. (jg) Melvin L. Levin, Lt. (jg) Tom Hannan, Ensign Harvey L. Hensel and Ensign Henry L. Kimelman. Competent assistance was given by Chiefs Callinan, Allen and Sliman.

Pay Day, always popular in No. 1 Chow Hall.



Disbursing Office:  
Where battalion accounts and financial records are kept by the Storekeepers.



Tim Coffey issuing a sheepskin coat to Chester Stogner while Humbert Lombardi looks on.





Lt. (jg) R. W. Dean



## MILITARY AND ORDNANCE



Lieut. F. J. Sharpe

**T**HE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY TRAINING AND ORDNANCE has had a profound influence upon every man in the Battalion. It is through the efforts of this department that the Battalion personnel received advanced training. This was accomplished in several ways. Squad and Platoon discipline and teamwork were developed by platoon drill competition and frequent close order drill periods. Extended order maneuvers were practiced by the companies of the battalion in coordination with various Army units of that area.

The operation and function of various weapons were thoroughly taught each man. Instruction periods were held for men in the special weapons section of each company until they became proficient in the operation and the use of these weapons. Every man made an attempt on the range to qualify for special medals. A large number made the grade and were awarded medals. One-half day each week was devoted to Military Training and provisions were made for almost every man to participate. The percentage of men taking military training each week averaged over 95%. This is believed to be a record in itself.

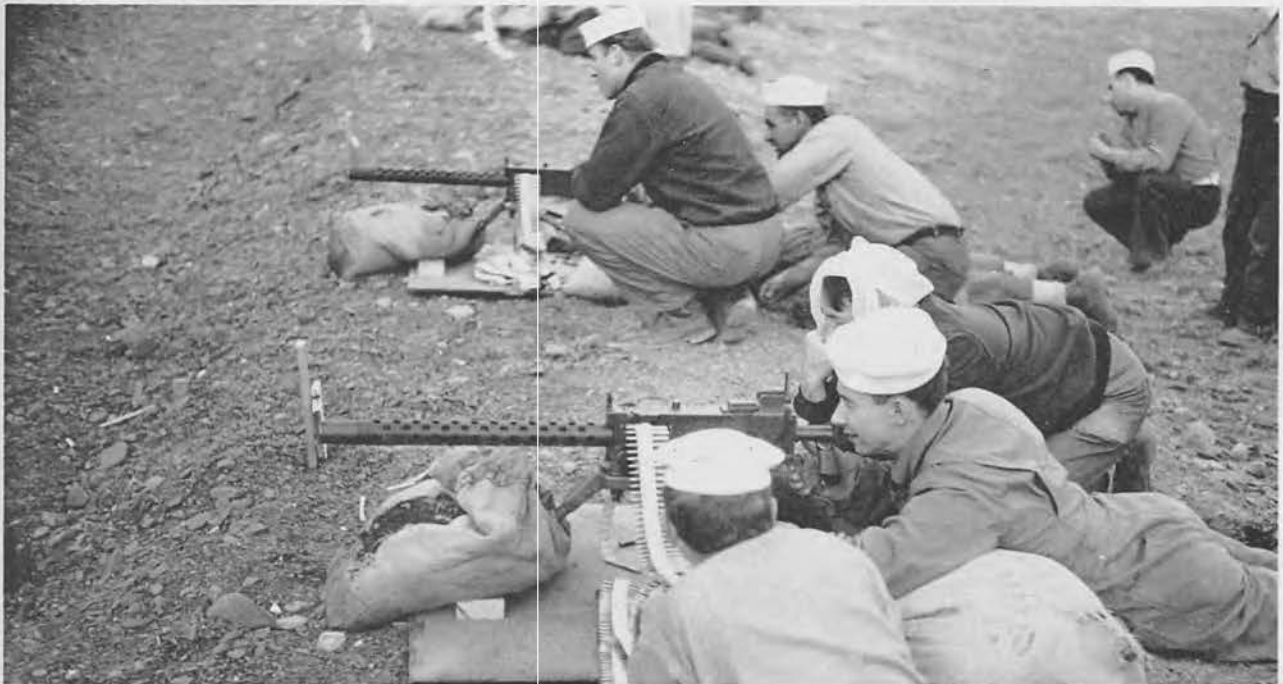


Champion Drill Team of the base, Company B. Won over all Army, Navy and Marine Units in 1943 close order drill competition.

(standing left to right) Lt. G. F. Ludvigsen, Ensign P. L. Baffes, E. G. Erickson, J. P. Elliott, W. G. Lindroff, F. J. Seiler, W. L. Heaston, C. Nazzaro, P. C. Smith, C. E. Brodie, Chief F. B. Bostrom.

(middle row left to right) B. P. Curtis, C. E. Chalmers, F. L. Marshall, J. J. O'Toole, C. F. Kaufmann, L. M. Mosher, J. E. Maraney, M. Pfeiger.

(bottom row left to right) C. H. Branscomb, J. Marinchak, C. G. Ray, E. R. Hathaway, G. H. Churchill, C. W. Leville, R. C. Cummings, E. J. Fridey.



Firing the 30 Caliber Machine Gun was part of our training.

These men qualified for Expert Riflemen with the Carbine, shooting a score of 175 or over out of a possible 200.

(left to right top row) C. W. Leville, W. L. Place, S. Posner, H. M. White, A. J. Ericsson, J. A. Marquette, F. S. Robison, F. E. Reed, C. N. Bishop.

(left to right third row) A. Idland, J. D. Moy, W. L. Heaston, C. B. Chambless, C. R. Forster, A. C. Dartt, J. E. Shannon, G. H. Koehn.

(left to right second row) D. G. Lawson, L. Zaiser, C. T. Shaffer, Chief E. S. Musgrove, Chief T. E. Murphy, Chief F. M. Gooch, P. J. Bajema, M. E. Carrado, R. G. Nelson.

(left to right bottom row) Chief V. H. Hudson, (W. O.) R. J. MacDonald, Ensign P. L. Baffes, Lt. (jg) M. L. Levin, Lt. Comdr. A. T. Brown, Lt. F. X. Carlin, Lt. (jg) R. W. Dean, Chief B. E. Swanson, Chief W. H. Beckcom.



Lieut. T. H. Makin



# CHAPLAIN

**T**HE SEABEES are proud to be known as "fighting builders," because they can fight while they build while they fight. Do you know that within the pages of the Old Testament there is a story of some men of old who were striking counterparts of the Seabees?

These men were the fighting builders who under Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem in 450 B. C. When we read the story we find these amazing words:

*"They who built on the wall, and they who bore burdens . . . every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon. For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so built." (Nehemiah 4:17-18.)*

The story of how this handful of faithful men overcame tremendous opposition and restored Jerusalem to something of its ancient power and glory is one of the most thrilling epochs of the Old Testament. One hundred fifty years before, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had besieged the city and captured it, seizing the gold, silver, and precious stones of the Temple, taking many of the people captive, and leaving much of the city and walls blackened ruins. Nehemiah, a cup-bearer in the court of Artaxerxes, obtained authority and materials from his master to rebuild the walls and in general restore the fortifications of the city.

Having obtained permission to return to Jerusalem, Nehemiah took a party of men and made a night survey of the walls of the city. The next day he called a mass meeting of the citizens of Judah and told them of his plans. The reaction was immediate and encouraging. They said, "Let us rise up and build." And we are told that they strengthened their hands for this good work.

Almost immediately opposition arose from the surrounding tribes, who were jealous and fearful of Jerusalem and did not want her to return to her former position of power and importance. The leaders of these tribes, Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem determined to oppose the work in every possible way. Their first weapon was ridicule. Sanballat called his men together and made a speech, laughing at the men of Judah and their plans, and saying that even if they were able to build anything, a fox could leap against it and cause it to fall down. Nehemiah was a man of prayer, and he called upon God to protect the builders and confound

the efforts of the enemy.

The next opposition took the form of a meeting and conspiracy to fight against the builders. Nehemiah again prayed to his God, but also looked to see that his "powder was kept dry." He set up a security watch to keep tabs on the enemy twenty-four hours a day. He was determined not to be caught short—"too late with too little."

Then there arose opposition from within. A "fifth column" of defeatists and pessimists within Judah began to complain that their strength was not equal to the task of lifting the stones for the wall. They pointed out that there was too much rubbish cluttering up the area, and were ready to give up the great work. These "termites within the gates" further pointed out that Sanballat and his allies were planning to make a surprise attack upon them while they worked and kill them all. Nehemiah immediately ordered the men to get their swords and spears and bows and have them handy at the scene of operations.

The final attempt of Sanballat and his forces took this form. They called upon Nehemiah to come out of the city and meet with them in one of the villages of the plain, hinting that they desired to work out some sort of "non-aggression pact." Wise Nehemiah suspected that it might be a desperate try to kidnap him and thus block the final work on the wall, and he sent the tribesmen this message, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down; why should the work cease while I leave it and come down to you?" Then the enemy threatened to send word to Artaxerxes that Nehemiah was starting an insurrection against him with his rebuilding of the fortifications of Jerusalem. This and other threats proved to be without power to stop the fighting builders, and after fifty-two days the repairs to the wall were finished. The enemy "perceived that this work was wrought of . . . God" and were ready to admit defeat.

These men had a job to do. It seemed that all the forces of hell and earth were determined to stop them. On their side they had a few discouraged builders, a dynamic leader, and above all, a great God. Nehemiah's prayers are among the most gripping and beautiful recorded in the Old Testament. When the final victory was won he was careful to give the glory to God. It is such a spirit as this that will make for a speedier defeat of our enemies in the present war, for a just and righteous peace, and for a better world.

# W E L F A R E



Lt. (jg) G. C. Thomas

THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT under the direction of Lt. (jg) G. C. Thomas and Chief A. M. Axelson has been most active. Mr. Thomas and Chief Axelson have provided the men of the Seventy-ninth with every form of recreation possible. There have been baseball, football, and basketball leagues. Track meets, boxing, wrestling, weight-lifting, ice skating, skiing, ping-pong, horse shoes, pool and handball have been enjoyed. When the weather did not permit outside sports the men were given Platoon beer parties with steak dinners. Bingo games were organized. Cards, chess, checkers and many other indoor games were always on hand. Special dances were held during the holiday seasons. Forty Christmas trees with decorations were provided for Christmas. Radios for each barrack deck or night watch were also provided. With the help of Chief Allen free hamburgers and popcorn were furnished the men weekly. All types of reading matter were purchased weekly and placed in the library. It is felt that this department did a wonderful job in keeping high the morale of the Seventy Niners during this tour of duty.



The American Red Cross was always around when we needed them.

(left to right) Miss Irene Davis, Miss Margaret Mowry, Field Director George Swoyer, Seaman William Sullivan and Miss Dorothy Torp.



Chief A. Axelson and F. Kistler with a few of the radios provided by the Welfare Department—Radios were placed on both decks of each barracks.





The



Battalion



Warrant Officer F. M. Stellhorn

# Headquarters COMPANY



Lieut. F. X. Carlin

**E**ACH CONSTRUCTION BATTALION has a Headquarters Company, which is comprised of approximately 176 men. This total includes storekeepers, yeomen, hospital corpsmen, mail clerks, barbers, cook and bakers, officers' cooks and stewards, cobblers, and other ratings to balance the battalion complement. This company forms the nucleus of the battalion maintenance personnel. The yeomen keep the personnel records; the storekeepers handle the pay accounts, supply and commissary records; the corpsmen work in Sick Bay. Headquarters Company was organized on 1 February 1943 under the command of Lt. Francis X. Carlin. Warrant Officer Frederick M. Stellhorn served as Executive Officer. Stanley Gorski acted as Company Clerk from the date of the company's activation until October 1943, and was replaced by Herbert Mycroft.

This company has contributed largely to the athletic accomplishments of the battalion. Alexander Barrett proved to be king pin of the bowling alleys. Kistler led the baseball team to many victories by pitching 4.0 ball. The two Kambergs, Ashcroft, Grossi, Courson, and Disimone are star basketball players, and Santagato finished near the top in the billiard tournament. Chief Murphy, the only seagoing chief in the battalion, had the distinction of being chosen skipper of a 60 foot tug and supervised the sailing of this vessel to the states. Norman Taylor accompanied the chief on the voyage.

This article would not be complete without a mention of the two mail clerks. Trovillo Gallagher and Joe (Tex) Ashworth. These men from the first recognized the importance of good mail service and they have unfailingly given it to the men of the 79th. Although the duties of many of Headquarters personnel limit somewhat their military training, they are a snappy, well-drilled outfit, and can be depended upon to show up nicely on the field. Headquarters Company can well be proud of its personnel and can rest assured that it is doing a good job in helping to make the 79th Battalion one of the best.



Warrant Officer J. W. Cox



**HEADQUARTERS COMPANY—Group One**

(top row left to right) T. J. Prenderville, C. W. Robison, M. W. Settle, R. E. Kamberg, K. E. Kamberg, J. G. Ashworth, T. J. Coffey, F. J. Taake, P. H. Duty. (third row) P. N. Wagner, E. B. McDermott, H. V. Mycroft, Jr., T. J. Russell, H. W. Worrell, Jr., A. W. Smith, J. K. Moore, W. S. Johnson, F. J. Cogar. (second row) J. E. Tansey, H. J. Browning, B. Hansen, P. Meysman, E. C. Rochambeau, D. E. Hallaran, G. H. Koehn, H. F. Freestone, E. F. Schopfer. (bottom row) E. W. Haden, R. H. Seeds, F. A. Sliman, R. P. Barnes, J. K. Allbee, H. C. Doty, T. E. Gallagher, S. J. Gorski, T. Joseph.

**HEADQUARTERS COMPANY—Group Two**

(top row left to right) S. E. Copley, J. R. Noel, W. V. Shea, U. R. Smith, N. D. Ziegler, W. L. Jennings, F. W. Kistler, W. Y. Turner. (third row) W. L. Place, L. Goldin, R. J. Courson, E. G. Laich, J. Resnick, E. E. Ross, N. Z. Taylor, W. J. Walker. (second row) R. H. Ashcroft, S. A. Novak, A. J. Suthons, P. C. Hollywood, R. G. Perryman, M. Goldberg, D. W. Pearl. (bottom row) T. P. Placek, M. W. B. Johnston, F. S. Vanderford, D. H. Wood, T. F. Callinan, J. A. Braton, C. E. Fay, E. S. Zdunek.



**OFFICERS' STEWARDS**

(top row left to right) P. C. Obra, F. P. Jesuitas, M. P. Fontanilla. (middle row) E. Q. Cariaga, V. D. Escobar, A. M. LaCuesta, M. Agbayani. (bottom row) R. B. Dagampat, A. Y. Abellera, M. M. Refre, E. G. Patacsil, L. S. Salva.



**20 MILLIMETER GUN CREWS**

(top row left to right) G. E. Kruger, A. G. Teer, S. Borowski, R. F. Johnson, J. A. Wedekind, J. C. Sorsby, Jr., R. G. Bauer, D. Snyder, R. H. Davis, G. D. Reed, Jr., T. O. Meyer. (third row) D. Sluisman, I. L. Moore, H. J. Tracy, C. B. Chambless, W. A. Yates, J. Sklaroff, A. Barrett, N. P. Grossi. (second row) A. J. Buher, E. A. Morris, J. P. Pickett, J. W. Leaf, S. J. Scharber, J. C. Garrity, P. J. Bajema, W. J. Barth, J. Barrs, C. Samokar, H. R. Will. (bottom row) F. Santagato, L. H. Gant, E. H. Barentine, F. V. Feenan, Warrant Officer F. M. Stellhorn, W. H. Beckom, D. L. Dougan, W. S. McGeorge, R. H. Browning.



**COOKS AND BAKERS—Group One**

(top row left to right) J. L. Belfiore, H. J. Mees, H. A. McKinney, K. Reich, W. L. Folts, W. W. Wright, J. Kump. (middle row) E. C. Lake, R. O. Simcox, H. J. Hensch, C. H. Atwell, W. C. Sapp, W. M. Hall. (bottom row) F. Nevis, R. B. Jarrett, J. Siprut, A. J. Povilonis, V. Marandola, V. H. Homan, L. L. Riddell.

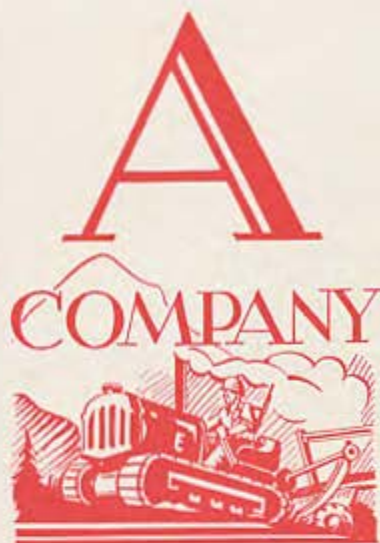


**COOKS AND BAKERS—Group Two**

(top row left to right) W. H. Philip, R. M. McDonald, W. Klaes, R. H. Griffin, E. M. Gauer, G. A. Koeningsfest, N. H. Snider. (middle row) J. O'Leary, J. D. Kiefer, N. T. Cannon, E. C. Hensley, T. F. Kokiernak, J. G. Depowski, W. C. Wernecke, F. Drago. (bottom row) C. Getty, H. M. Esposito, H. E. Brown, L. E. Allen, R. A. Fuller, E. Rafacz, A. T. Gardner.



Lieut. D. J. Pipal



Lt. (jg) G. C. Thomas



Ensign H. A. Hart

ON THE FIRST DAY of February, 1943, some 220 men varying in age from 17 to 50 years and representing approximately thirty-five trades and professions, were brought together from thirty-eight states to form Company "A" of the 79th Battalion. The first officer to command this unit was Lieut. E. T. Jones, who became Executive Officer of the Battalion before we left Camp Bradford. Following in command came Lieut. M. W. Hourigan, to remain only a short time. He was relieved by Lieut. Frank J. Sharpe who commanded the company until November, 1943. At that time he assumed the duties of Military Officer and Lieut. D. J. Pipal became Company Commander. Assisting in the administration and guidance of Company "A" have been Lt. (jg) G. C. Thomas and Ensign H. A. Hart. The enlisted personnel have not fared badly in regards to promotions. One Chief Petty Officer was appointed to the rank of Warrant Officer and a number of our Chiefs have been granted permanent appointments.

Approximately sixty per cent of the enlisted personnel have received advancements in rating, seven of such advancements being to the rating of Chief Petty Officer. In carrying out the various work assignments on this base the men have, in nearly all instances, applied the experience and ability gained in their civilian trades. Quite a number of men, however, have, through diligent application to their assignments become adept at trades in which they have had no previous experience. Company "A" can claim its share of the honors in matters of athletics, having been well represented on the football, baseball and basketball teams that were entered by the battalion in the base leagues.

The majority of the "keglers" in the past winter's tournament and in the current Bowling Sweepstakes will also be found on the muster roll of Company "A." In spite of the inborn trait of the American construction worker to resist regimentation, the morale and cooperative spirit of this company has always been tops.

Were it possible to obtain the opinion of each individual in the company, it is sincerely believed that the associations with one another and with the balance of the Battalion will be treasured down through the years.



**COMPANY "A"—PLATOON 1**

*(top row left to right)* P. M. Pescio, E. L. Sargent, J. R. Howell, C. M. Dowling, W. A. Stricker, O. H. White, A. L. Fillerup, P. B. Cox, L. F. Vallach. *(third row)* H. Lombardi, C. W. Hamm, P. A. Barberie, C. A. Pound, E. Durkin, S. P. Cumsky, T. C. Wilson, E. F. Schmick, J. D. Davidson. *(second row)* W. V. Crews, A. E. Arsenault, V. R. Riehle, G. M. Sheeler, L. F. Price, E. R. Sepanik, R. A. Schott, H. F. Caviness, C. T. Demellier. *(bottom row)* J. J. Creamer, G. W. Bullers, A. Beaulieu, E. E. Ryan, B. D. Rathjen, H. Axel, L. Peters, A. H. Buchholz.

**COMPANY "A"—PLATOON 2**

*(top row left to right)* T. Johnson, G. Machado, J. J. Serra, W. L. Johnson, G. T. Stephens, S. Brusko, R. R. Powers, T. P. Baker. *(third row)* A. B. Brown, G. F. Miller, C. H. Ott, H. W. Meek, W. H. Snowhill, W. I. Gray, B. Graham, J. W. Caterson. *(second row)* J. Nevers, R. H. Jensen, J. G. Jacketti, J. F. Johnsson, A. L. Shanks, C. F. Williams, B. H. Olsson, H. L. Sutherland, G. N. Waite. *(bottom row)* C. J. Mahowald, W. H. Blythe, J. A. Salo, D. E. Moe, R. H. Arnold, A. J. Korseck, J. C. Black, D. J. Pericone, L. A. Woolbright.





**COMPANY "A"—PLATOON 3**

(top row left to right) A. C. Pratt, R. M. Beirne, C. G. Robertson, D. E. Landers, H. J. Hutton, F. H. Ashley, R. J. Bransfield, E. T. Schneider, O. F. Zensinger. (third row) E. W. Adams, T. P. Arentz, W. E. Clark, A. Christensen, R. M. Hall, D. O. Mathison, W. S. Breckenridge, G. T. Whittum, A. G. Mullen. (second row) G. D. Holladay, J. L. Wheeler, K. L. White, W. M. Colvig, R. F. Eichert, J. F. McGowan, B. J. Gallagher, H. A. Sweeney, R. J. Minor, T. J. Moynihan. (bottom row) R. D. Clifford, E. N. Cook, S. E. Groom, J. A. Donaldson, O. R. Teague, A. F. Petrus, R. W. Tower, H. D. Hesselman, J. Bolesworth.

**COMPANY "A"—PLATOON 4**

(top row left to right) S. Ascherman, O. H. Crowder, H. E. Paul, H. R. Hunters, S. C. Martin, B. H. Ray, J. J. Ford, M. B. Stearns, E. L. Maiwald. (third row) H. J. V. Walling, K. P. Wisnac, H. Murnin, J. G. Waskovich, H. H. Killinger, J. Aronowitz, W. H. Bartels, P. H. Soper. (second row) S. A. Danielson, V. A. Magno, H. W. Ostrander, K. W. Waddell, W. H. Champion, W. E. Lee, Jr., I. L. Adee, O. P. Wilderson. (bottom row) S. Harris, A. Miseyko, J. D. Alexander, T. E. Murphy, E. S. Musgrove, N. E. Buczek, F. L. Scerra.



**COMPANY "A"—PLATOON 5**

(top row left to right) R. H. Johnson, L. J. Wright, C. J. Mateyov, A. A. Handlik, R. L. Stubblefield, G. L. Grove, E. G. Wennerstrom. (third row) R. L. Shelton, C. Lamb, R. S. Adams, C. L. Stout, R. E. Struchen, R. F. Laraby, C. O. Gomez, L. L. Hendricks. (second row) F. W. Erickson, C. S. Johnston, A. M. Lang, J. P. Gurkas, J. F. Lane, I. W. Jones, R. R. Metcalf, S. D. Velcich. (bottom row) J. E. Helecki, L. E. McIntyre, H. B. Day, M. W. Monroe, E. A. Volpinari, J. J. Cutillo, O. Fortin, A. A. Iacoviello.

**COMPANY "A"—PLATOON 6**

(top row left to right) T. J. Sweeney, C. M. Strong, J. P. Gallagher, C. M. Cookson, H. J. Schaffer, E. J. Holtz, C. W. Lambert, S. D. Swinney, Jr. (third row) E. Borrego, C. L. Raboin, C. W. Collier, R. W. Cawthra, J. M. Swanick, W. A. Lanier, E. T. McCormack, D. E. Sampey, D. E. Carley. (second row) J. J. Sullivan, S. J. Finster, F. F. Bedacht, W. Szott, T. J. Culhane, O. W. Simms, R. H. Winters, A. L. Breshears, H. E. DeRyke. (bottom row) H. J. Williams, K. J. Krumvieda, M. L. Cartiscelli, J. L. Slusser, M. W. Moriarty, H. C. Stone, R. L. McKellar, J. H. Taggart, A. P. Kutchner.



Lt. (jg) W. R. Kramer



Lieut. W. W. Blake

COMPANY "B" has one of the most colorful histories of all the companies in the 79th. Its officers and men are bound together by a very strong company spirit. The company was first commanded by Lt. G. F. Ludvigsen (Minnesota) who when assigned to other duties was succeeded by Lt. W. Blake (Maine).

Lt. (jg) W. R. Kramer (Illinois) is the company executive officer and the company command is completed by Ensign P. L. Baffes (Illinois). All through boot training and the tour of duty in the Alaskan Sector, Company "B" has had the reputation of being a "scrappy" outfit. They have excelled in both work and play. Company "B" was first to be assigned to Base Maintenance and held down the job until the rest of the battalion joined them.

In the spring of 1944, "B" Company was detached and proceeded westward to build additional base facilities. There they encountered much severer conditions than they had at their original base, but in true 79th spirit they kept up the fine work of the battalion. In the summer of 1943 a drill competition was held on the base. Company "B" won the inter-battalion competition and then proceeded to win over the other Navy units, Marines and finally won over crack Army units to gain the drill team championship of the island.

Sports went over big with the company. They won the Base Softball Championship for 1943. Other sports such as basketball, boxing, track and ping pong were well represented by the company. G. B. Conner was sent to Anchorage from the company for the Alaskan Olympics track meet. Other outstanding sportsmen were Markewicz, McDonald, Kiefer, Panfiglio, McCadden, Potosnak, Yelton and Morton. Naturally through work and recreation, Company "B" stuck close together, but stronger than company spirit is their loyalty to the 79th and their efforts spent to continue to uphold the record established by a battalion working together.



Ensign P. L. Baffes



**COMPANY "B"—PLATOON 1**

(top row left to right) F. L. Marshall, M. A. Cohen, A. K. Bonnette, L. L. Nolton, S. J. Buccola, D. Panfiglio, G. F. Comstock, D. H. Fuller. (third row) H. Cooperman, B. J. Woturski, C. F. Luck, J. R. Collins, J. Marinchak, A. D. Riley, J. L. Hopkins, J. R. Kloffenstein, J. N. Adams, J. J. Clark. (second row) E. I. Bushey, G. W. Ford, C. W. Leville, R. D. Collins, J. A. Nye, W. R. Reimer, G. H. Churchill, A. J. Malandrucolo, F. M. Monroe. (bottom row) G. B. Conner, E. L. Ellis, J. M. Robinson, F. B. Bostrom, T. P. Wadsworth, E. G. Erickson, C. W. DePiazza, R. C. Cummings, S. H. Hilley.



**COMPANY "B"—PLATOON 2**

(top row left to right) C. A. Dressing, H. L. Matheson, J. S. Miller, L. Milot, R. E. Lewis, Jr., J. K. Karfo, K. Kanzer. (third row) L. M. Mosher, M. C. Carick, V. Bosler, D. P. Matranga, C. E. Prodzinski, M. E. Carrado, W. R. Buchanan, T. E. Warren, H. W. Boesch. (second row) M. A. Nugent, W. Kiefer, G. C. Stemm, C. G. Ray, P. P. Sivon, H. B. Graves, E. C. Andrews, J. P. Harding, J. Medeiros, C. F. Kaufmann. (bottom row) E. H. Koupf, S. Prairie, E. R. Hathaway, B. P. Curtis, E. C. Hansen, F. J. Beers, J. C. Garrity, J. W. Smith, A. Canova, J. K. Watt.



**COMPANY "B"—PLATOON 3**

(top row left to right) J. T. Ham, E. C. Dool, L. E. Youtzy, W. M. Halls, R. C. Carlson, W. F. Murphy, Jr., C. Naz-zaro, F. J. Seiler, S. T. Markiewicz. (third row) C. A. Carlson, C. M. Brining, J. Bartoldo, S. W. Maslan, J. Francisco, Jr., V. C. Jardine, C. E. Wymore, Jr., C. E. Wiggin. (second row) J. A. Marquette, V. H. Zawadski, M. B. Panciera, A. R. Gouldthorpe, R. G. Nelson, R. K. Norris, J. J. Murray, J. L. Perry, F. Wensel. (bottom row) E. F. Murphy, R. Harrison, J. C. Oldham, E. Foster, C. H. Branscomb, B. J. Ogle, J. T. McQuaid, D. L. Gravenstine, G. F. Peace.

*7* *Jon W. Kinney*

**COMPANY "B"—PLATOON 4**

(top row left to right) W. R. McAdams, F. V. Mastrandrea, A. M. Esterby, A. E. Huddleston, H. M. White, R. B. Bernt, F. S. Hayes, B. Mattucci, B. Marks, W. Wansa. (third row) H. L. Jenkins, C. E. Taylor, F. A. Frangillo, V. A. McDonald, R. A. Perrie, H. J. Lutz, L. D. Manning, J. M. Evans, H. N. Marion. (second row) T. P. White, R. D. Shuey, M. J. Lee, D. C. Smith, J. F. Shamay, J. E. Maraney, M. A. Irwin, R. T. Haag, R. H. McCoy, L. Zaiser. (bot-tom row) M. W. Long, J. Groom, G. W. McGirr, T. J. LaBelle, G. R. Lippincott, L. Seeley, J. W. Kinney, L. S. Hall, T. P. McNulty.



**COMPANY "B"—PLATOON 5**

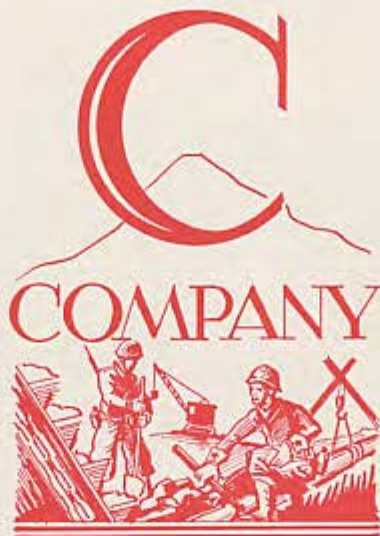
*(top row left to right)* C. R. Moore, W. L. Heaston, T. L. Morton, E. E. Shelly, C. S. Hankins, W. G. Lindroff, J. P. Elliott. *(third row)* L. W. Nye, J. R. Flynn, W. W. Kern, A. Dacre, S. Posner, T. E. Smith, P. H. Summerfield, J. M. Cunningham, F. Barnato. *(second row)* H. R. Kazanchy, E. L. LaBarre, T. E. McClain, W. J. McCadden, W. O. Karnes, R. W. Keown, R. M. Kevil, E. N. DeWitt, F. L. Crowder. *(bottom row)* R. J. Potosnak, E. F. Soderman, R. H. McDonald, E. C. Hansen, L. J. Lurate, Jr., B. E. Swanson, J. J. Previty, H. O. Glotfelty, F. Medas.

**COMPANY "B"—PLATOON 6**

*(top row left to right)* V. L. Davis, E. V. Cronin, P. A. Devish, J. B. Martin, W. Hagge, W. M. Fuquay, A. E. Olson, C. E. Chalmers. *(third row)* H. M. McDonough, A. T. Tyler, D. Cammeleri, F. F. Creighton, Jr., A. Fantini, E. C. Koster, R. V. Snell, A. S. Doane, S. A. Kirby. *(second row)* L. L. Strange, C. B. Heath, P. R. Harter, A. McKanna, P. F. Perry, R. B. Lyon, R. DePalma, C. E. Brodie. *(bottom row)* F. T. Tasso, F. M. Keane, R. J. Donah, C. W. Wood, J. J. O'Toole, V. T. Pelican, Jr., L. H. Sevret, G. J. Valerioti, C. T. Leach, Jr.



Lt. (jg) R. W. Dean



Lieut. S. J. Boyle



Ensign W. W. Cooper

WITH THE FORMATION of Company "C," Lt. Vollmer was appointed Company Commander and also Communication Officer for the Battalion, Lt. Boyle as Executive Officer of the Company, Lt. (jg) R. W. Dean as Battalion Ordnance Officer, and Ensign W. W. Cooper, Assistant Communications Officer for the Battalion. Later, Lt. Vollmer was relieved of his duties and appointed Battalion Executive Officer with the rank of Lt. Comdr. With the change, Lt. Boyle was assigned as the new Company Commander. At the formation of the Company, Chief Hudson was assigned as the Senior Chief of the Company and T. F. Reinhardt as Company Clerk. Many of the personnel of the Company were sent to various Navy Trade schools to specialize to a greater degree in the trades they had worked at as civilians. Among these, Chief Hudson was placed in charge of the Small Arms School and Chief Gooch in charge of Generators and Electricity.

Company "C" men comprise a large portion of the telephone, electric and power plant crews for the battalion, and have done construction work extensively on the base. Company "C" has also participated in all sports, some of our outstanding athletes being A. Genovese (baseball), G. Callahan and Mike Watnick (boxing), W. J. Bernat (basketball), and N. C. Ellsworth (pool). Other outstanding men in Company "C" who deserve mention are—Chief Gooch, for his thoughtfulness in catching and smoking approximately 500 silver salmon for the men of the battalion to enjoy; Peter Garnet, for his many poems and writings that have brought recognition to our company; Ed Dowd, for his patience and time in coaching the men of the company for examinations, and also for the swell job he has done to make our battalion library a success; Chief Openshaw, for the time he has given to his welding class; P. A. Riverin for his quick thinking and calmness in acting to save Chief Olson when his arm became entrapped in a conveyor belt. Regardless of what company you are in, it is natural to feel that your company is tops. The personnel of Company "C" are no exception. They feel that they have the best officers and chiefs there are, and when the battalion is disbanded, they will all without a doubt, miss one another's presence and friendship.



**COMPANY "C"—PLATOON 1**

(top row left to right) C. P. Egbert, W. P. Judge, W. W. Lewis, M. C. Hooper, P. Carnes, R. G. Hauser, A. E. Shaffer. (third row) D. W. Reeder, D. G. Lawson, C. L. Fletcher, R. F. Capanno, H. E. Homewood, A. R. Contestable, A. F. Dolan, W. R. Costello. (second row) G. E. Callahan, T. D. Geise, J. R. Cannon, C. E. Doyon, V. Caporimo, E. C. Dowd, A. H. Metras. (bottom row) E. H. Clapp, E. E. Santowski, L. Prame, F. M. Gooch, J. E. Olson, J. R. Chesaneck, L. Braverman, E. J. Chesaneck.



**COMPANY "C"—PLATOON 2**

(top row left to right) J. J. Montgomery, G. A. Koenigsfest, L. L. Jornlin, C. R. Forster, C. C. Roy, C. F. Hammer, P. Koslowski, J. C. Hussey, M. F. Palermo. (third row) J. L. Denes, J. T. Cody, W. J. Bernat, J. Schwartz, J. C. Kohlenbush, D. H. Haney, N. D. Howell, J. D. Dea. (second row) J. Johnson, J. Sweet, W. E. Schlicht, C. Hohl, R. L'Hommedieu, R. C. Leduc, T. Kokiernak, A. F. Willett, A. Palaszewski. (bottom row) J. C. Reed, T. Stewart, W. R. Hines, E. R. Kohler, E. C. Buckholtz, F. E. Anderlan, F. Summa, J. V. Power, C. Parker.





**COMPANY "C"—PLATOON 3**

(top row left to right) C. H. McCulley, A. A. Coady, F. R. Smith, J. H. Norris, V. E. Wood, R. F. Eddy, J. E. LaFollette, J. Muniak, F. R. Krall. (third row) W. P. Horgan, C. K. Mintzer, W. W. Oles, E. J. Tracy, H. Hansen, J. H. Gilcher, L. D. Elwood, E. C. Loeblich. (second row) M. F. Griffin, J. Onorato, W. F. Cusick, C. W. Hudgens, P. J. Nolan, P. Garnet, R. B. Dale, A. J. Oros. (bottom row) P. A. Riverin, J. Dussault, H. L. Ingham, W. J. Beckel, A. M. Axelson, J. Thompson, L. S. Wallace, M. Odorisio.

**COMPANY "C"—PLATOON 4**

(top row left to right) E. J. Miller, A. R. Lee, R. D. Smith, T. P. Keleher, J. J. Hupf, H. E. Eastabrook, W. M. Willer, T. Moore, J. P. Accetta. (third row) H. E. Facto, E. Fair, R. M. Owen, H. F. Maggini, W. I. Hunt, F. G. Michaelson, L. C. Haas, D. L. Lowe, S. C. Florio. (second row) C. A. Miller, N. C. Ellsworth, J. G. Adams, M. S. Harrington, H. S. Chowning, S. E. Forest, T. E. Meczywor, A. W. Epting. (bottom row) S. Chlebowski, R. E. Ebersole, C. N. Woll, C. L. Van Etten, F. B. Hilton, C. R. Myers, J. B. Shuler, S. Trumbatore.



**COMPANY "C"—PLATOON 5**

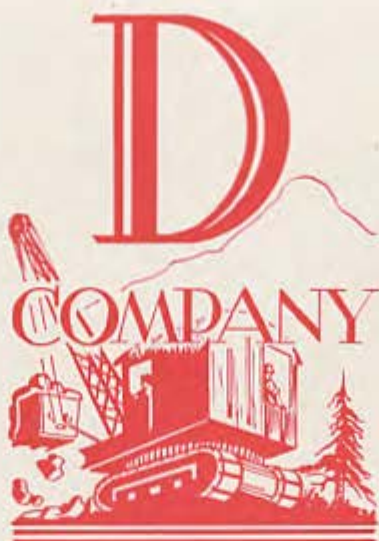
(top row left to right) S. Romanowski, W. L. Munsell, T. F. Reinhardt, J. H. Hunt, M. Semke, F. E. Reed, M. Rockfeld, J. B. Putman, D. R. Reitsma. (third row) R. C. Olson, E. P. Tillson, T. R. Byrd, J. J. Bowers, R. C. Kauffman, C. W. Klug, O. Gray, J. A. Rebhorn, T. E. A. Finneran. (second row) E. C. Austin, T. R. McGwinn, E. I. Schaffer, J. S. Douglas, G. A. Standhardt, L. S. Lane, R. A. Parry, V. E. Mooney, C. Reams. (bottom row) E. E. Seibert, E. D. Johnson, E. A. McLaughlin, E. L. Walsh, P. J. Blanchard, R. L. Jarvis, M. J. Miller, H. N. Robinson, R. D. Phillips, A. L. Handy.

**COMPANY "C"—PLATOON 6**

(top row left to right) A. G. Edelmann, L. S. Graves, L. A. Wilson, J. H. Waalkes, N. Guilbeau, K. E. Clark, S. J. Johnson, J. J. Watson. (third row) R. V. Moreno, H. A. Olson, C. E. Power, R. S. Vickery, L. D. Ashley, J. D. Moy, M. Watnick, M. L. Waldo, J. R. Rooney. (second row) D. S. Pixley, J. Ingram, C. Mallon, T. W. Fulcher, C. M. Mills, A. F. Cowan, J. J. Matejcek, D. L. Stanford. (bottom row) A. Genovese, E. J. Lindquist, E. B. Lewis, B. R. Openshaw, V. H. Hudson, H. A. Varnum, J. T. Enright, R. H. Garner, L. R. Barnes.



Lieut. S. Canonico



Lieut. W. W. Shoemaker

COMPANY "D" of the 79th Battalion was formed on the drill fields of Camp Bradford, Virginia, in February, 1943. Under the guiding hands of Lt. W. W. Shoemaker, Company Commander, and his officers, Lt. (jg) S. J. Canonico, Ensign F. A. Dieter and Warrant Officer E. J. Haberacker, the first few months of shaking down were successfully completed and Company "D", as well as the rest of the battalion shoved off for overseas duty.

Once situated on the new base and squared away, the right man began to be assigned to the right job. Lt. Shoemaker took over the Public Works Engineering Department and in a short while had things really humming. Lt. (jg) Canonico, after a short term of duty in the Public Works Maintenance Shops, was appointed as Officer in Charge of a maintenance and construction detachment sent to another smaller base. Ensign Dieter was assigned as Transportation Officer and later was transferred to the Navy Garage. His talents and experience were given better use when he was re-assigned and placed in charge of the Power and Water System on this base. Warrant Officer Haberacker was placed in the Construction Department and, with a crew composed mainly of men from Company "D" were sent to practically every project in existence.

These men applied themselves to the work in progress so diligently that, after one year overseas, more than 150 individual promotions had been earned and granted in a company of slightly over 200 men. R. J. MacDonald, senior Chief Petty Officer, was promoted to Warrant rank and later assigned to another outgoing detachment. F. A. Stone took over his duties as Senior Chief. While establishing their reputation on the various projects, the men in Company "D" did not forget the athletic and educational side of the picture. The company was well represented in all athletic contests and recreational activities and always managed to give as good as they got. In addition, large numbers of the men signed up for the various classes and instruction groups available to the personnel on this base.



Lt. (jg) F. A. Dieter



Warrant Officer E. J. Haberacker



**COMPANY "D"—PLATOON 1**

(top row left to right) J. M. Simpson, W. M. Phillips, J. Grecco, O. G. Wiley, F. R. Frost, R. L. Nelson, C. N. Bishop.  
 (third row) W. C. Healy, P. J. Bajema, A. Nersessian, J. R. Denison, J. E. Mullooly, W. J. Phelps, W. T. Burke,  
 J. E. Fletcher, K. C. Tompers. (second row) P. E. Bonin, R. Mowrer, E. D. Heller, W. H. Gamache, F. E. Mont-  
 gomery, R. F. Tobin, J. A. Millsap, G. F. Lamport. (bottom row) F. K. Irvine, L. R. Blair, J. Goff, R. A. Wood,  
 G. D. Brosseau, W. M. Devine, W. R. Bowen, W. J. Calamare, H. W. Phillips.



**COMPANY "D"—PLATOON 2**

(top row left to right) R. J. Scharer, C. R. Stogner, R. A. Kozakiewicz, E. M. Wolf, R. G. Kovacs, S. Kovaciny,  
 E. H. Reichle, C. E. Puddy. (third row) J. E. Shannon, P. D. Atteberry, J. F. Sumner, E. Krause, P. J. Kearney, J. A.  
 McCallum, H. L. Marden, W. E. Lancaster, O. Johnson. (second row) R. E. Dickerson, J. A. Schwellenbach, H. J.  
 Riedl, F. Altif, J. H. Roberts, J. L. Langness, A. D. Johnson, J. W. Seery, R. G. Turner. (bottom row) W. J. Reitz,  
 A. A. Kinney, F. E. Rasanen, A. Idland, J. T. Gordon, E. C. Winton, C. E. McCarty, T. A. Schlecht.



**COMPANY "D"—PLATOON 3**

(top row left to right) M. T. McAlister, K. R. Gorgas, C. F. Koeneke, C. B. Chambless, P. F. Mangold, M. W. Wenrich, J. B. Wall, A. J. Kader. (third row) A. Roux, M. J. Furman, D. F. Pope, E. L. Baton, C. A. Lambert, A. E. Rush, J. A. McMillen, D. P. Phillips, A. G. Becker. (second row) L. M. Poirier, A. W. White, H. J. Newhouse, R. F. McElroy, E. P. Pearson, N. B. Case, W. F. Beeles, P. Ploskina, P. W. Prueter. (bottom row) C. Gray, W. J. Flynn, J. Grossi, T. E. Woods, W. H. Hill, A. MacDougall, A. C. Dartt, D. F. Barberio.



**COMPANY "D"—PLATOON 4**

(top row left to right) E. J. Forker, E. W. Pufahl, C. A. Barnes, L. D. Anderson, W. E. Dow, W. J. Frazer, L. J. Mas-son, G. A. Marion. (third row) G. W. Renz, H. M. Brown, H. E. Fortner, V. O. Spencer, G. W. Aduskevicz, H. K. Havens, S. Guerra. (second row) L. F. Sorrels, G. E. Todd, S. R. Williams, F. H. Williams, G. F. Uliano, W. J. Preston, J. Gangi. (bottom row) G. F. Lynch, P. J. Gallant, R. L. Smith, H. E. Smith, C. H. Sparks, E. J. Breckin-ridge, G. R. Evans, W. F. Sullivan.



**COMPANY "D"—PLATOON 5**

*(top row left to right)* H. L. Stuckemeyer, L. N. Sandell, J. J. Seerley, A. C. Tompkins, J. J. Rudenko, H. E. Schapansky, W. E. Sauers. *(third row)* H. R. O'Brien, O. E. Tiboni, O. F. Russell, N. Shaffier, C. A. Hudson, G. G. Schrieber, E. R. Mussinan. *(second row)* G. E. Sansoucie, C. T. Shaffer, N. C. Schiff, C. H. Smart, J. L. Schneider, R. F. Steinfeld, H. L. O'Hanlon, W. H. Redner. *(bottom row)* J. M. Rudy, R. W. Willis, S. E. D. Johnson, W. K. Louma, F. A. Stone, J. P. Decker, G. L. Marion, M. W. Lawson, N. P. Santimays.

**COMPANY "D"—PLATOON 6**

*Top row left to right)* H. S. Olson, F. C. Howe, E. E. Sears, F. P. Perkins, F. S. Nielsen, R. S. Benton, M. E. Grove. *(third row)* J. T. McCaffrey, J. F. McHugh, F. A. Berghorst, T. M. Larsen, C. G. Hendrix, E. Bougie, J. W. Snyder. *(second row)* R. P. Foltz, E. L. Richie, C. F. Montello, J. B. Horay, C. R. Fancher, E. H. Kelley, D. K. Moriarty. *(bottom row)* A. E. Stiteler, S. J. Szczepanek, R. B. Wilburn, R. L. Wiley, R. L. Yaeger, J. C. Good.

# BATTALION HISTORY



THIS RESUME of the battalion's history will not be a detailed account of camp life, nor will paragraphs be devoted to training, navy chow, cold barracks, quonset huts, or early morning muster. Most of the families and friends who will read this publication will have heard about these things time and again from the men of the 79th, will have read of them many times in other publications, and will have seen pictures of them on the screen. Instead, it will be a simple travelogue; for every service organization that trains in the States and is then shipped to foreign countries for duty certainly becomes familiar with the word "travel."

THE MAJORITY of the personnel of the 79th Battalion left the security of their homes and their families during the Christmas Season of 1942. Instead of the usual Christmas Spirit which pervaded homes throughout the world, these men were met with a totally different existence; bleak weather, gloomy living quarters, service clothing, hard work, strict regimentation, different food, different routines, and homesickness were their lot for the first weeks of their service. For those who have not experienced this transition, it is quite a task to adapt one's self to service life and become acclimated to the changes which the service demands, especially at a season of the year which is synonymous with good cheer and happy associations.

★ All of us had our "boot" training in Virginia, a state rich in the lore and traditions of liberty. Camp Allen, Camp Bradford, and Camp Peary were the three Seabee Training Centers in Virginia. Most of the 79er's trained at Allen or Bradford. We didn't see the beautiful part of Virginia, which is natural, for large military reserves cannot always be established where the scenic attractions are best. Yet we did learn of the stately beauty of the pines, the particular blue of Chesapeake Bay, the deliciousness of Blue Point oysters, and many of us experienced that brand of hospitality for which the Tidewater section is renowned. We left Camp Bradford on March 11, 1943 and began our trek which has brought us to the Alaskan Sector. We traveled two days and nights enroute to Gulfport, Mississippi, and arrived there on the 13th of March. The order to take our nine-day leave came unexpectedly and the men living on the East Coast and Mid-West left the next day for their long awaited visits home. Our nine days at home, seeing our families again; marveling at the growth of our babies, eating food cooked to perfection, wrestling with ration points and worshipping in our churches were enjoyed more than anyone can realize. However, Uncle Sam couldn't wait long and we were back in Mississippi on the 24th of March ready to go again.

★ The short training period in Mississippi was climaxed by a thirty-mile hike, which is a lot of walking in any war, but sore feet, sore backs, and the democratic feeling of being just "sore" didn't phase us in the least. It seems that each training camp in America is situated in the choice historic spots, and certainly the most colorful. Gulfport is a beautiful little town, clean and well planned, and flanked by the exotic Gulf of Mexico. Pass Christian drew many 79ers on liberty, and although New Orleans was some miles away, the more intrepid individuals ventured over and were enchanted by its old world beauty. We particularly enjoyed the weather in the deep South after the continual battle with the elements in Virginia. But this sojourn was short-lived for the orders came to move again, and we hied ourselves westward.

★ On March 30th we left Mississippi bound for the West Coast. Pullmans this time, and four days of nothing to do but watch the passing scene, dream, write letters, eat, and do guard duty on the train. For those of us who had not traveled to any extent, this trip was a revelation. We saw the lush beauty of Louisiana's bayou country, the plains and blue hills of Texas, herds of cattle, an antelope here and there, the torrid beauty of the desert, Indians selling souvenirs, and the beautiful towns and irrigated land of Arizona. And then California. So beautiful it all but hurt your eyes to look at it. The mixture of modern architecture blended with the hacienda motif; the orange and lemon groves; the gaily dressed people; the palm trees and wide avenues. The cities of Hollywood, Los Angeles, Ventura, Oxnard, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Fullerton, Alhambra and Compton, became well known to us and we learned that the South is not only the part of the United States where hospitality is a by-word. We were astonished and humbled at the scope of the war industry, and the omnipresence of soldiers, sailors and marines gave us an idea of the amount of manpower involved in this undertaking. On the 4th of April the men from the West Coast received their nine-day leaves, returning to camp on the 13th.

★ On April 18, 1943, Lieutenant Commander Alec T. Brown, CEC V(S) USNR, assumed command of the battalion. Lt. Comdr. Brown, through his quiet efficiency and thoughtfulness, has the respect of every man in the 79th. It was through his efforts that the conveniences we later enjoyed on Island "X" were made possible.







★ Fate did not intend for us to bask long in this paradise, and after a month in Port Hueneme (Camp Rousseau) we left for Seattle, our port of embarkation. On this two day and night trip we passed through some of the most beautiful country in the United States—Northern California, Oregon and Washington. The variations astonished all of us, little towns built on the sides of mountains, the sunrise over Mt. Shasta; the level farm lands; mile after mile of timber; the fruit country, and the realization that this was a part of our United States.

★ We arrived at our port of embarkation and proceeded directly to the pier. Then followed endless periods of checking gear, mustering, and just waiting. Finally we boarded the ship. The voyage was uneventful—the usual sea seasickness was common but some of the more fortunate came through unscathed. We still trained and worked. K. P. duty, abandon ship drill, guard duty, clerical records to be maintained and the inevitable waiting in chow line. Sleeping four deep in the hold will be remembered always. We made it, however, and the morning of our fifth day out we spied the snow-capped peaks of our Island “X” looming in the distance.

★ None of us knew what to expect, and what a surprise it was to discover that our assignment meant to be stationed at a modern advance base equipped with many conveniences. It didn't take long for the news to spread that a small town was just a stone's throw from the base. The village is crudely constructed, with mud ankle deep, but it is picturesque, combining the modern with the sourdough effect. The village is a typical example of the profound influence military personnel has on sparsely settled areas. Many civilians are drawn from the States to the village and many of them are becoming wealthy. Almost any article desired could be purchased and it was a treat to see the very charming girls behind the counters dispensing pillow covers, moccasins, AND STEAKS.

★ There are many interesting things to see in this particular part of the North.

★ The most spectacular event is the salmon run. This is an annual migration of the salmon from salt water to their home streams. There are myraids of streams and each stream is milling with fighting,

struggling fish, each prepared to reach his native haunts or die. The scenery is something upon which books have been written. Alaska is a country of extremes, and it is inconceivable that the rugged Winter scenes could be replaced by the green vista which Spring heralds. The prolific fireweed is the most common flower and it tints the mountains with red, sprinkled with the hues of wild roses, violets, wild iris and many other flowers.

★ Space and security do not permit a complete review of this battalion's activities. Much work has been done and the record speaks for itself. Every man in this unit typifies America at its best. The men come from all parts of the country but have welded themselves into an organization with a common purpose. Victory will be ours through the efforts these men put forth. The most menial job becomes magnified many times during a crisis. The men of the 79th will meet all obstacles and overcome them, as will all men of the service.



The 79th disembarking May 10, 1943 on "ISLAND X."



# Battalion



*at Work*

# *Construction and Maintenance Departments . . .*

Engineering Department

Public Works Shops

Pipe Line

Roads and Runways

Navy Garage

Communications

Electrical (underground)

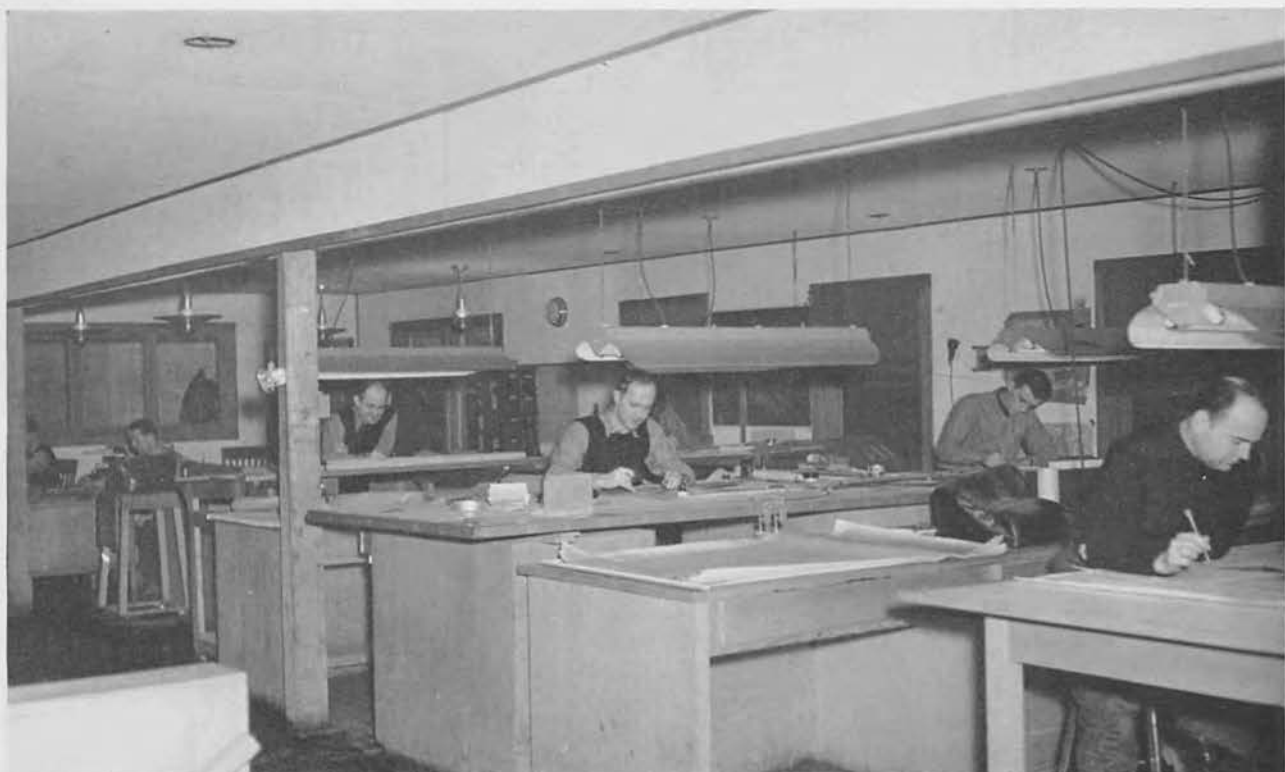
Tank Construction

Battalion Carpenter Shop

Auxiliary Detachment (M)

Waterfront





(upper) The Engineering Department where plans were drawn for the men in the field. (right to left) T. J. Russell; W. J. Bernat; M. W. B. Johnston; S. J. Gorski; and Lt. Shoemaker in the background.

(lower) Surveyors on the Pipe Line.



(upper) The Garage machine shop was small but well equipped.

(lower) J. Thompson and S. Prairie finish up some fine cabinet work in the paint shop.



(upper) Public Works carpenter shop where they could make everything and did.

(lower) Welding a section of pipe in the shop.





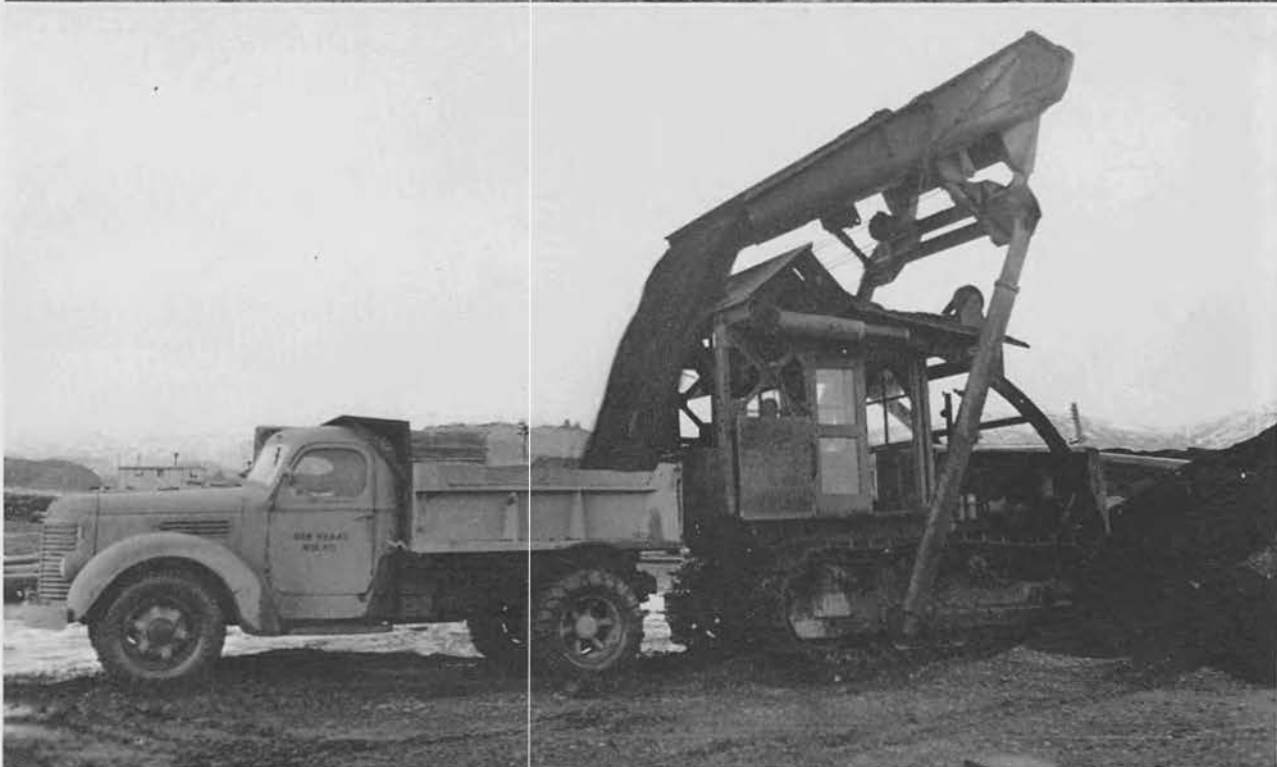
The pipe line was one of our largest projects. Here it is being run under a stream.



The job was tough, cold, and plenty wet, but we got it built in record time.

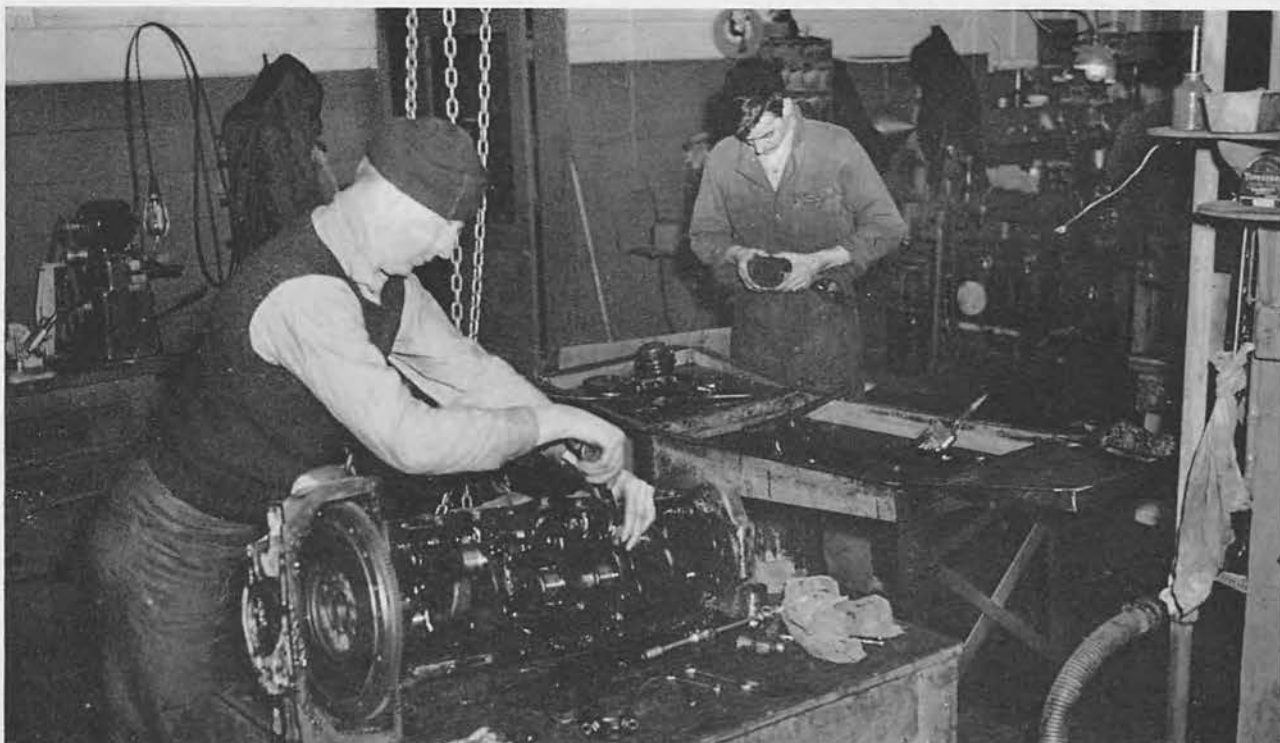


The Roads and Runway department kept the roads in excellent condition. Motor Patrols were worked constantly because of rain and snow.



*(upper)* A Bucyrus Shovel removing material from a revetment during many 79th construction projects on the base.

*(lower)* Mobile Loader. Loading excess material for highway use.



*(upper)* Motor overhaul was one of the main functions of the garage. Spare Motors were kept in readiness for unexpected breakdowns.

*(lower)* Road sander made out of "spare parts" to keep the roads in safe condition during icy weather.



Ringin strand preparatory to pulling cable.



Linemen were at work in all types of weather, keeping communications and power lines in service.



The underground electric department pulling cable. This cable was in fibre conduit, and nine hundred and eighty feet long.



*(upper)* Battalion area Carpenter Shop.

*(lower)* Pouring the concrete foundation for a wood stave water tank.



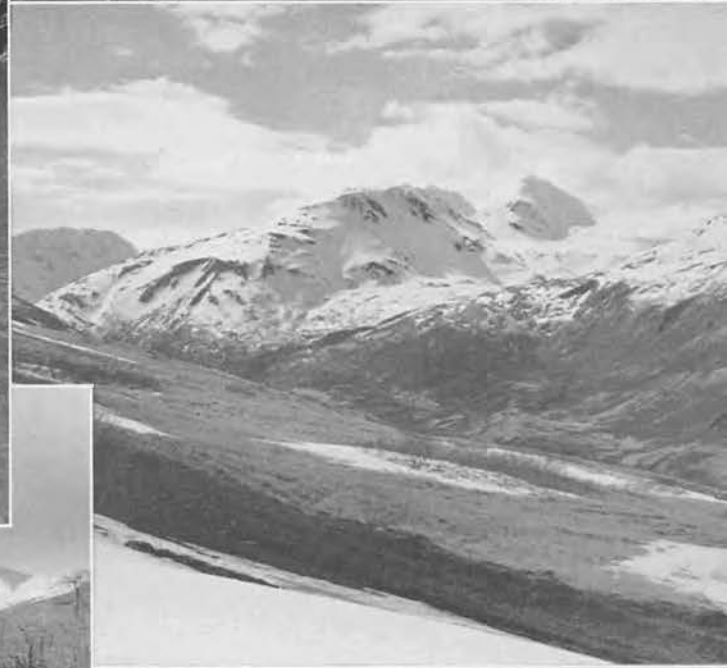
**AUXILIARY DETACHMENT (M)**

(standing left to right) Lt. Stephen Canonico; Chief P. H. Temple; L. R. Van Dyke; J. W. Brown; D. J. Yoder; E. E. Columbus; H. J. Kosky; C. V. Urban, Jr.; E. C. Speer; M. Pfieger; H. H. Robertson; R. J. Nowak; G. H. Kern; G. E. Hulbert; C. L. Smith; E. J. Friday; C. D. Dostgolus; B. H. Montgomery; J. F. Belknap; A. Masi; J. G. Ricci; H. R. Mills; D. R. Udell (Chief). (kneeling left to right) C. F. Mullen; W. G. Harrison; R. A. Bendickson; F. G. Baiano; P. Simone; J. Pizzo; V. E. Rutherford; E. M. Waddell; C. W. Wilson; J. P. Canty.



The waterfront department had many functions, but one of the most important was bringing supplies to Army Outposts and Outlying Islands. The journeys were particularly hazardous due to the treacherous nature of Alaskan waters and weather. Chief Murphy and his crew are reputed to be the only "Sea Going" Seabees. These men sailed the tug "Reliance" from our base to Seattle, Washington. The cruise took 28 days to complete and there were many narrow escapes and harrowing experiences.







# BATTALION FIELD DAY



**Officers and C.P.O.s  
vs. Enlisted Men**

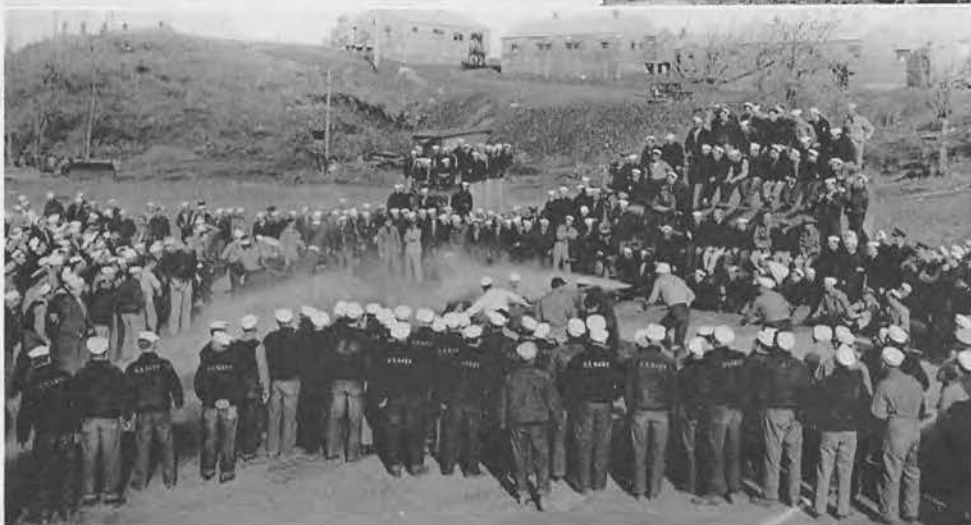
**Dutch Lunch on Field Day**



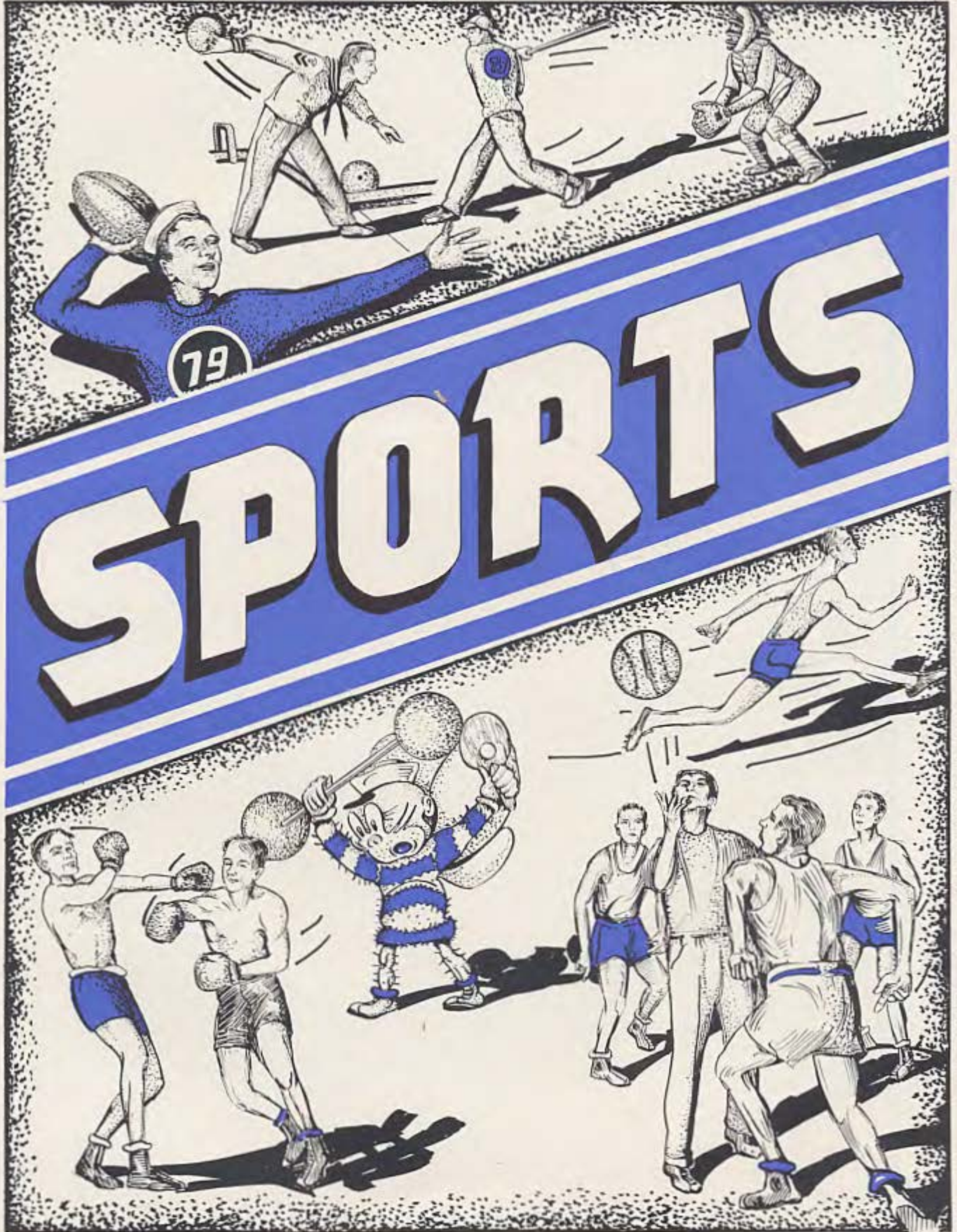
**Everyone Had Plenty to Eat!**



**It pays to have a pull, when it's  
good old-fashioned tug-of-war**



# BATTALION





D. Panfiglio tags out N. Ellsworth at home plate during the "Big Game" between Company B and Company C.



Bernat and Kistler go up for a rebound in a game with another unit on the base.



Basketball facilities were the best. The 79th entered three teams in the base league.



Battalion Bowling Team: (Standing left to right) A. Barrett and O. Zensinger. (Sitting left to right) R. Clifford; W. Johnson and K. White.



Boxing smokers were popular and well attended. Don Yelton (left) of the 79th won the decision over Armand Zerkle of the Army.



The Base Ping Pong Championship was won by Ensign Harvey Hensel (extreme right). Three out of four places were taken by 79ers.



Easter Church Service  
1944, was well attended.



Chaplain Makin and his  
quartet, Maurice Settle;  
Spurgeon Swinney;  
John Rebhorn and Nyle  
Ziegler. Harold Mar-  
den played the organ  
and Pvt. Dowling of the  
Army helped out.



Olivia DeHaviland  
surprised us all by visit-  
ing our sick bay in  
March, 1944.



T. Gallagher and "Tex" Ashworth had charge of the biggest morale builder there was—THE U. S. MAIL . . . Metal work exhibit at the Hobby Show. Spurs, knives, sabers, picture frames, and carving sets were entered . . . Charles Bishop and Cyril "Red" Koenke, handled the moving pictures at the battalion field house . . . Frying Hamburgers for that Sunday evening snack . . . Water and Oil Color Art Work was also entered in the Hobby Show . . . A few of the many visitors at the hobby show sponsored by the Welfare Department. This exhibit: Totem Poles made by E. Tillson.





"Slick" Vanderford and one of his many dogs—what would "Slick" do without "Man's best friend." . . . Our misunderstood Company Clerks (*standing left to right*) H. Sweeney and W. Wansa. (*sitting left to right*) T. Reinhardt, H. Mycroft Jr. and W. Frazer . . . Christmas 1943, in a Quonset Hut . . . Swabbing a deck brings back old memories—Kenny Kamberg and Roy Kamberg at the mop handles . . . Packing up to go "West" . . . Our 79th Field House.

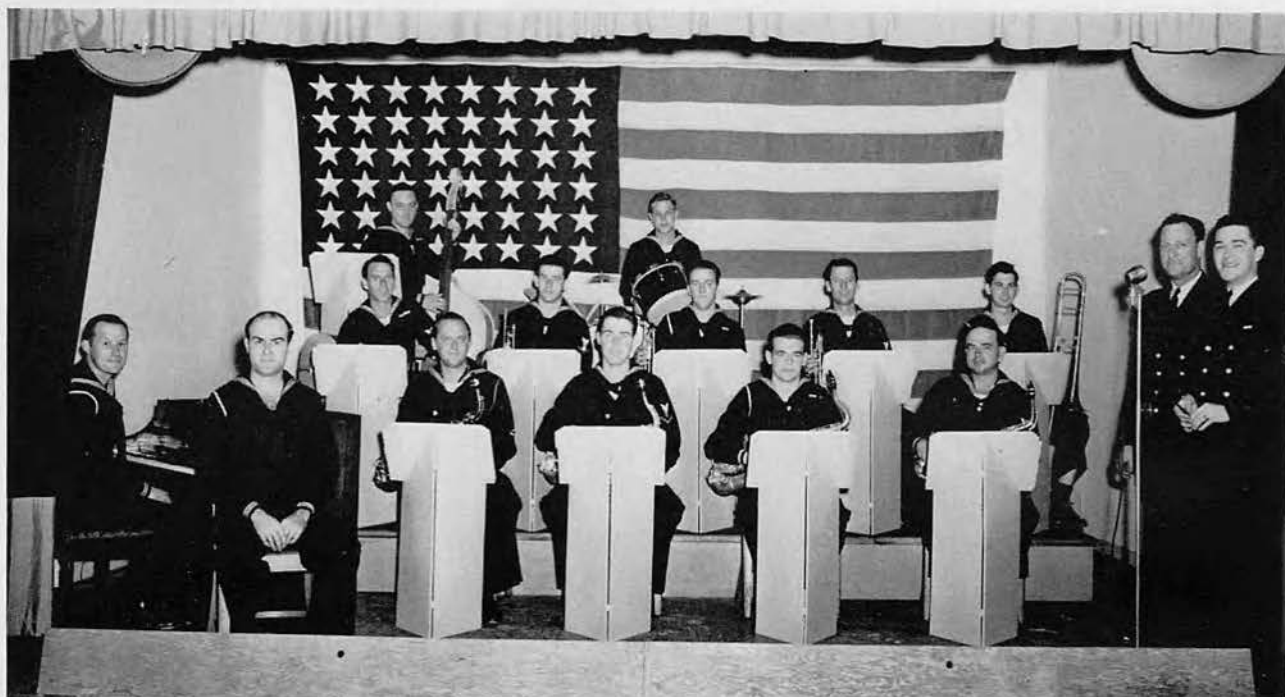




Ships Service—They did over \$12,000.00 in business in three months . . . Nick Grossi and Bob Owen our Battalion Barbers . . . Tailors (left) Joe Sorsby and Albert White kept “things” sewed up . . . Artist Harvey Freestone designing back cover sheet for the year book . . . Every week there was plenty of pop-corn . . . “Blackout” our mascot.







**THE SEVENTY-NINTH BATTALION ORCHESTRA**

*(left to right front row)* Ted Arentz; Frank Frost; Dorian Coogan; John Coulter; John Alexander; Joe Langness; Chief A. Rolls; and Chief R. Barnes. *(middle row, left to right)* Ted Johnson; Charles Bishop; Vincent Magno; Chester Stogner; and Nyle Ziegler. *(back row)* Johnny Noel on the Bass and Sammy Velcich on the drums.

*(lower)* Enlisted men's Christmas party and dance—1943.

# Our Children



BETTY BLANCHARD



WILBUR A. RIDDELL



BRUCE KOEHN



DOROTHY WHITE



DIANE THOMAS



RAYMOND, ROBERT DICKERSON



RICHARD MILLER



KAY HUGGENS



JOHN BAJEMA



THERESA WHITE



GERALD KADER



RAYMOND PHILLIPS



JEANNETTE SNYDER



JIM RAMSER



LYNN DECKER



JUNE FULCHER



GERTRUDE, PATRICIA, ROBERT PFLAUM



MARJORIE SNYDER



HAZEL REALY



LESLIE RIDDELL, JR.



HARRY PHILLIPS, JR.



RONNIE GUILBEAUX



RICHARD, ALICE, ALLEN RITCHIE



SHIRLEY WILFRED JOHNSON



RICHARD, GELEEN, ASHLEY



ERIC STROM



W.K. & WILLA RAMSER



ROBERT SLUSSER



DAVID & JOHN MARTIN



ALMA REALY



JAMES ROONEY



ARLENE DEPOWSKI



TIMOTHY DOLAN



"CANDY" BAXTER



KATHLEEN DEAN



RICHARD ARENTZ

LOIS WARNECKE

FRED SLIMAN JR.

LINDA ALLEN

NETTY GRECCO

DONNA CARLEY

LAVONE MYKINNY

CAROL SHARPE

JOHN E. HADEN

MARY WOOLBRIGHT

JEANETTE OLSON

PATRICIA ARMSTRONG

MEREDITH JOHNSTON JR.

THOMAS STANG

BOBBY PUFÄHL

RICHARD HALL

ANITA WOOD

CLAUDIA PRICE

DAVID ADAMS

LINDA HIGMAN

JAMES COLLIER

PENNY LOU KISTLER

DEAN PHILLIPS

MARY FLETCHER

BILLY BARRS

FRED DE ROSIER

ALLAN WENKIN

DESTINY SIMPSON

JAMES McMILLEN, II

D'ARCY ANN NOEL

JUNE CREWS

SOROHY SOMMER

PAUL SETTLE

NORMA JARRETT

KATHLEEN McMILLEN

MARILYN McMILLEN

LAVONNA McMILLEN

PATRICIA STEINARD

JOANNE MOE

LOIS MASSON

DAVID & JOANN SCHLECHT

FRED WILLIAMS JR.

MARSHA BERNAT

SHARON SIMCOX

SHANNON SNOWHILL

DONNIE CHRISTENSEN

PHIL ROBISON



JANICE SNYDER



WERT COOPER



WAYNE & WARREN SWEDEMAKER



NANCY BROWN



FRANK BROSSAU



JOHN GOOD



JAMES & JOSEPH RICHIE



BETTY & ALLEN VOLLMER



RICHARD & ROBERT HALL



WILLIAM SZOTT



KENNETH KADER



SHIRLEY SCHNEIDER



PATRICIA, DENNIS, GERALD, STANDHART



BARBARA WOOLBRIGHT



KENNETH OLSON



MICHAEL ESPOSITO



RICHARD PUTMAN



NORMA OLSON



GEORGE & NORMA BROSSAU



ROSALEE & KATHLEEN MEEK



MARION POVILONIS



MICHAEL MYCZKACK



ROSEMARY & GEORGE LYNCH



HAROLD SNYDER



DEAN WOOD



MARION VOLPINARI



JOSEPH LAKE



JAMES SEERY



EDWARD M. HUGH



BILLY KEARNEY



MARY BENTON



ROBERT RICHIE



MILDRED EICHERT



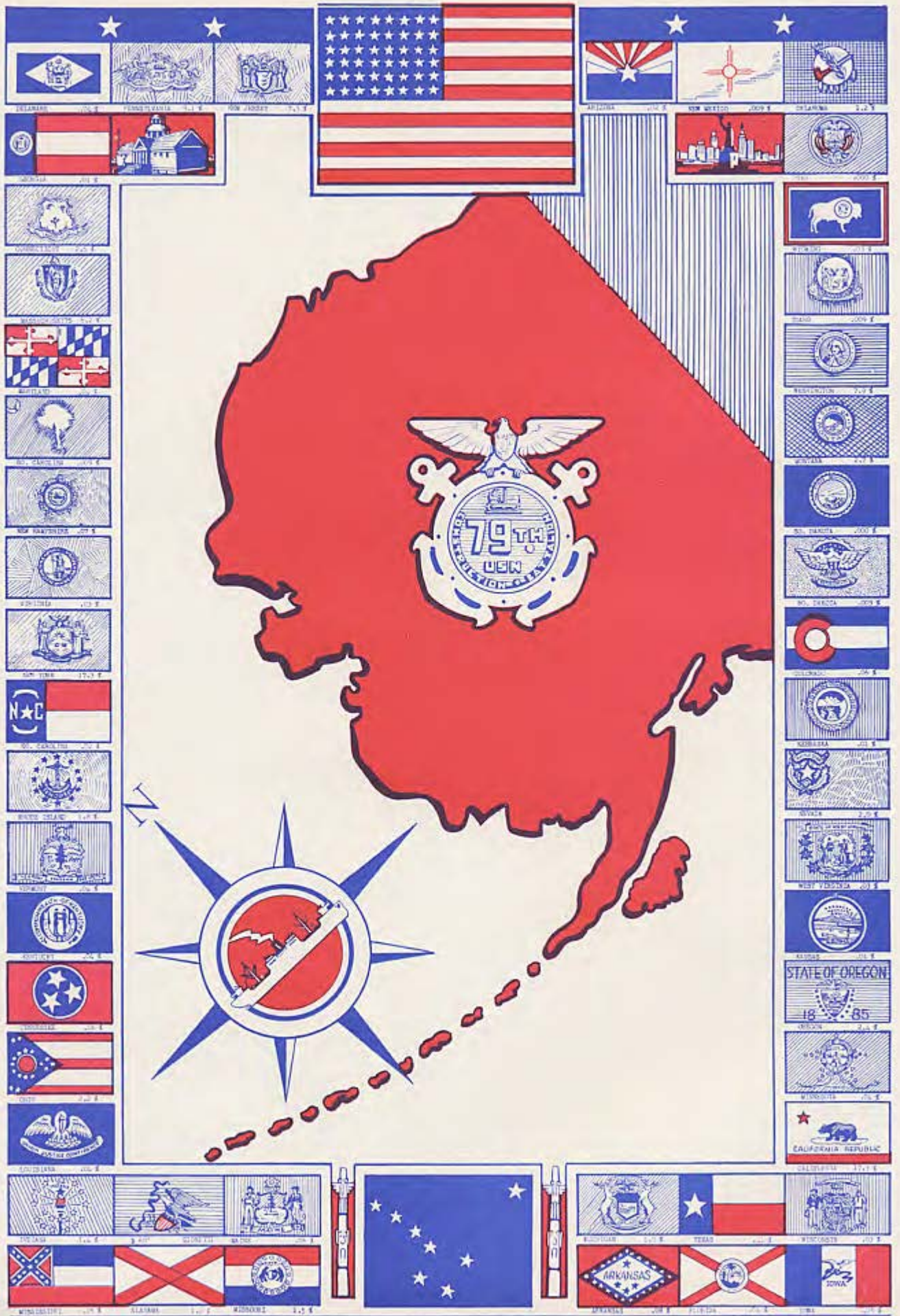
JOHN M. HUGH JR.



PAUL WHITE



LINDA SCHREIBER



# Battalion Statistics

## MUSTER OF 79ers BY STATES

CALIFORNIA . . . . .	186
NEW YORK . . . . .	186
PENNSYLVANIA . . . . .	98
WASHINGTON . . . . .	84
NEW JERSEY . . . . .	78
MASSACHUSETTS . . . . .	67
MONTANA . . . . .	29
CONNECTICUT . . . . .	28
OREGON . . . . .	26
OHIO . . . . .	24
TEXAS . . . . .	23
NEVADA . . . . .	22
RHODE ISLAND . . . . .	20
MISSOURI . . . . .	17
INDIANA . . . . .	16
ALABAMA . . . . .	13
OKLAHOMA . . . . .	13
MICHIGAN . . . . .	11
ILLINOIS . . . . .	10
ARKANSAS . . . . .	9
NEW HAMPSHIRE . . . . .	8
COLORADO . . . . .	7
MAINE . . . . .	7
TENNESSEE . . . . .	7
IOWA . . . . .	6
MISSISSIPPI . . . . .	6
DELAWARE . . . . .	5
FLORIDA . . . . .	5
KENTUCKY . . . . .	5
LOUISIANA . . . . .	5
MARYLAND . . . . .	5
MINNESOTA . . . . .	5
VERMONT . . . . .	5
VIRGINIA . . . . .	4
WEST VIRGINIA . . . . .	4
WISCONSIN . . . . .	4
WYOMING . . . . .	4
ARIZONA . . . . .	3
NORTH CAROLINA . . . . .	3
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA . . . . .	2
GEORGIA . . . . .	2
KANSAS . . . . .	2
NEBRASKA . . . . .	2
IDAHO . . . . .	1
NEW MEXICO . . . . .	1
NORTH DAKOTA . . . . .	1
SOUTH CAROLINA . . . . .	1
SOUTH DAKOTA . . . . .	0
UTAH . . . . .	0
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>1070</b>

## OLDEST MAN IN BATTALION

Richie, Ernest L. Born August 11, 1892, Age 52

## YOUNGEST MAN IN BATTALION

Place, Walter L. Born March 18, 1926, Age 18

## HEAVIEST MAN IN BATTALION

Jarvis, Robert L. Weight 312 lbs.

## LIGHTEST MAN IN BATTALION

Agbayani, Manual Weight 102 lbs.

## TALLEST MAN IN BATTALION

Wood, Vale E. Height 6 ft. 4½ in.

## SMALLEST MAN IN BATTALION

Salva, Lorenzo S. Height 4 ft. 10 in.

## NUMBER OF MEN IN RANKS AS OF (?)

Chiefs . . . . .	76
1st Class Men . . . . .	192
2nd Class Men . . . . .	270
3rd Class Men . . . . .	207
Seamen 1st Class . . . . .	260
Seamen 2nd Class . . . . .	53
Married Men . . . . .	521
Single Men . . . . .	516
Divorced Men . . . . .	41
Number of Children of Men in Battalion . . . . .	411

Average Pay of Men Including M.A.Q.;  
F.A.; and Overseas Pay . . . . . \$120.43

Amount of Payroll for Year of All Men,  
Including Officers . . . . . \$2,017,719.58

Average Age in Battalion . . . . . 29 yrs.

Average Height Men in Battalion . . . . . 5 ft. 8½ in.

Average Weight Men in Battalion . . . . . 151¾ lbs.

There are 118 men 40 years of age or over in the Battalion  
and 94 men just 20 years of age, also 33 men weighing  
200 lbs. or more.

The Battalion has three sets of Brothers: Edward J. and  
Joseph R. Chesanek from New Britain, Conn; Kenneth  
E. and Roy E. Kamberg from Kansas City, Mo.; Fred  
H. and Stanley R. Williams from Sutters Creek, Calif.

# 79th Seabee Song

Words by JOHN F. McHUGH, Co. "D"

## I

We're the boys of the 79th you've heard so much about,  
The people stop and stare at us whenever we go out;  
We're noted for our talent and the clever things we do,  
Most everybody likes us and we hope you'll like us too.

## CHORUS

As we go marching and the band begins to P-L-A-Y  
You can hear us shouting,  
The boys of the 79th are on their way.

## II

Now we've been here for one whole year with coughs and colds and squeaks;  
We eat our chow, but God knows how, and still our snozzles leak;  
But out upon that muddy field in rain, and snow, and breeze,  
You'll always find us on our toes, THE 79TH SEABEES.

## CHORUS

## III

From Norfolk on to Gulfport, then Hueneme by the sea,  
The 79th went training for the cause of liberty;  
We trained by day and trained by night, to show the Japanese,  
The road to hell was built for them, BY THE 79TH SEABEES.

## CHORUS

## IV

From Port Hueneme by the Sea to dreary pier,  
We then laid down on the Chaumont, for the cruise that brought us here;  
To ( ) Alaska, where the gals are as scarce as trees,  
Oh! What a helluva, helluva life for THE 79TH SEABEES.

## CHORUS

## V

Now we are here to make complete, the Maintenance of the base,  
And the scuttlebutt keeps flying in and out of every place;  
It's Adak! it's Attu! it's Kiska hear them tease,  
We don't care, let the Japs beware of THE 79TH SEABEES.

## CHORUS

## VI

Now we don't know what's in store for us, and we don't give a damn,  
We gripe and groan and yell and moan, but we'll stick to the very last man;  
And when the war is over and the world's again at peace,  
The U.S.A. will cheer for the men of THE 79TH SEABEES.

## CHORUS



## *The Streamlet*

*From the mountain top the streamlet flows  
To lowlands down below;  
Rippling gently on its way,  
And growing larger with the day,  
Until the river deep and wide  
Begins to mingle with the tide;  
Dashing onward, ever downward,  
Bent on union with the sea.  
Journey then begins again  
As up to clouds and down as rain;  
So on and on in wondrous train  
The streamlet restless doth remain.*

PETER GARNET







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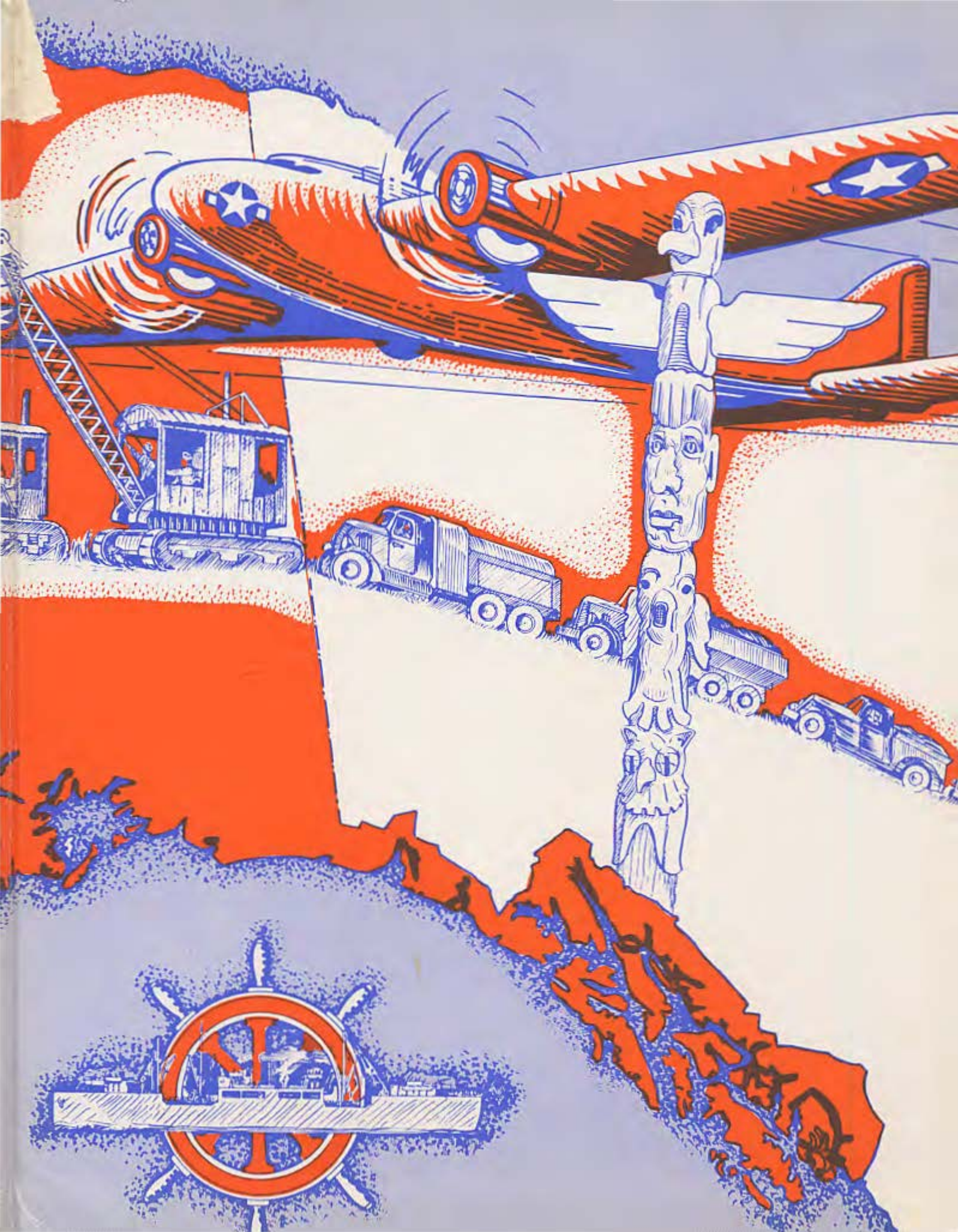
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