

1958

MM 24/A1-1

104TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION
U. S. NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS BASE
CORONADO, SAN DIEGO 55, CALIFORNIA



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A110

104 NCB/49
100:rew
Ser 015

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9 November 1950

From: Officer-in-Charge
To: Chief, Bureau of Yards and Docks

Subj: Periodic Report, forwarding of

Ref: (a) NAVDOCKS 1296, dtd 1 October 1950

Encl: (1) Periodic Report, Detachment NCB 104 (WESPAC), Wonsan, Korea, dated 30 Oct 1950, with enclosure

1. Supplementing reference (a), the subject report is forwarded herewith.


Arthur T. ROTH

Copy to:
Dist Civil Engineer, 11ND
DirPacAlDocks, T.I., San Francisco
ComServFac
CO, USNCBCen, Port Hueneme
OinC, 105 NCB, c/o F.P.O., New York
OinC, USN MobCB #1, NavPhibBase, Little Creek, Va.
OinC, USN MobCB #2, USNCBCen, Port Hueneme, Calif.

DETACHMENT PERIODIC REPORT
 COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP ONE
 UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
 0550 I 23 Oct 1950

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To 0000 I 30 Oct 1950

File CONF

Detachment NCB 104 (WESPAC)

Serial #1

Wonsan, Korea

1200 I 30 Oct 1950

Enclosures (Maps, Charts, Photos)
 Wonsan Anchorage Overlay - George Anchorages

1. Personnel situation at end of period:

(a) Location of activities	- Yokesuka:	3 Officers	- 17 enlisted men
(b) Troop Strength	- Incheon :	1 " "	- 8 " " "
	Wonsan :	3 " "	- 74 " " "
	*APA 45 :		- 18 " " "
	" 218 :		- 18 " " "
	" 33 :		- 33 " " "
	" 237 :		- 18 " " "
	" 220 :		- 18 " " "
	AKA 106 :		- 10 " " "
	" 104 :		- " " " "
	" 54 :		- " " " "
	" 98 :		- " " " "
	" 94 :		- " " " "

Lt.(jg) R.E. Dilley, CEC, USN, at Yokesuka -
 29 Oct OinC requested NAVFE grant maximum
 emergency leave on completion report 104th
 Coronado.
 15 men were transferred from the beach to
 USS BAYFIELD on 29 Oct - not needed ashore.
 *Ships are travelling in Korean and Japanese area.

2. Personnel Replacements - None

3. Discipline - No cases

4. Morale - see paragraph 7

5. Miscellaneous Personnel Matters: Rerates effected during period - effective
 16 Oct 1950

BAILEY, Vern E., 568 62 29	CM3	to	CM2
BOWMAN, William C., 947 12 04	CD2		CD1
CANTRELL, Ralph E., 351 35 42	CE3		CE2
HURD, Robert D., 628 76 32	BU2		BUL
ODONNELL, Edward J., 797 91 50	BU3		BU2
ROSE, Robert P., 992 48 14	SK2		SK1
SOWERS, Clarence B., 342 88 25	CDCN		CD3
THODE, Henrick A., 719 06 35	SWCN		SW3
WALKER, James D., 797 93 34	SV3		SV2

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6. Intelligence -

(a) Enemy capabilities which may effect accomplishment of unit mission: None

(b) Weather and hydrographic conditions : Wonsan

	<u>SurfZ</u>	<u>Weather</u>	<u>Visibility</u>
October 23	negligible	clear	unrestricted
" " 24	" "	"	" "
" " 25	" "	"	" "
" " 26	" "	rain	10 miles
" " 27	" "	clear	unrestricted
" " 28	3-4' occasionally 5'	"	" "
" " 29	negligible	"	8 miles

(c) Beach Characteristics - Wonsan

Trafficability: Poor - sand beach - hard pulling for all wheel vehicles - LVTs transit beach satisfactorily - but tear the surface up so that wheel vehicles have rough going.

Slope: 1:35
Offshore (150ft) bar extends over most of beach - 2 to 4' of water over bar.

Place to beach 10 LSTs (bow draft 3', aft 12') - ships hit beach at flank - dozer pushes sand to edge of ship ramp - 1-2' of water at lip of ramp.

Exit: Three - poor - 1-1½ mile average sand roads to Wonsan airfield.

Bottom Holding Ground: Sand and mud - good.

7. Operations

One causeway (2-2x30 strings) was placed on 27 Oct and used principally to land troops. LST used to place causeway.

Two barges placed off beach on 28 Oct - used as transfer barges.

Two barges beached on 28 Oct and cranes placed thereon and used as beached transfer barges.

Established tent camp and galley for entire Beach Group on beach at causeway. C rations only available - galley heated food and made coffee.

Erected a signal tower at causeway, erected heads.

Routine maintenance of equipment performed.

150 men (18 per APA, 10 per AKA) served on 11 APA and AKAs as members of the ships crew. This method enabled the Unit to have a floating reserve.

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7. Operations (cont'd)

The Wonsan operation was an administrative landing - the efficiency of the Unit was adequate for the job presented. However, it is to be noted, the Unit was at no time put to a test sufficient to rate its efficiency in comparison to the Inchon assault landing.

The cold weather encountered after the long idleness on crowded ships had a definite affect on the morale of all hands of the landing force in the opinion of various seasoned observers.

The Phillipine and the Korean campaign are similar from a pontoon unit standpoint. Several landings were made in each campaign without a chance to restage and reoutfit and a period of relaxation for personnel between operations. The morale of the men and the state of readiness is obviously affected by multiple landings closely spaced.

8. Training: Wonsan

Entirely operational as outlined in paragraph 7.

9. Supply:

- (a) Yokosuka - Detachment dumps
Inchon - Pontoons - 2 warping tugs
 2 5x30
 1 5x15
 4 2x30

Balance of gear and equipment from Inchon has been shipped to Yokosuka.

- Wonsan - 2 2x30
 4 barges
 Camp operating gear and equipment

- (b) Wonsan - operating gear is now at a premium. Survey of situation does not justify shipping here from Yokosuka. Inner harbor will be swept of mines by 5 Nov and unloading will be performed only in harbor, no pontoons needed in harbor.

10. Transportation and heavy equipment:

- Wonsan - 4 D8 dozers
 3 6x6 cargo trucks 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ T
 1 6x6 dump truck 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ T
 3 jeeps
 3 light plants

All will be ready for complete overhaul when this unit is secured about 5 Nov.

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10. Transportation and heavy equipment (cont'd):

Comments: Ensign Huffman has been sent to Yokosuka to aid the enroute (from US) draft to assemble and ready equipment, outfit and complete training of a unit capable of operating: 4 warping tugs, 8 barges, 8 2x30 sections.

The Cinc 104th NCBn serial 655 dated 16 Sept requesting a weekly detachment report was received on 29 Oct 1950. Action has been initiated to secure information from Yokosuka and Inchon to incorporate in the weekly reports.

MT Jacobs
"M" T. JACOBS,
Cinc 104th NCBDET