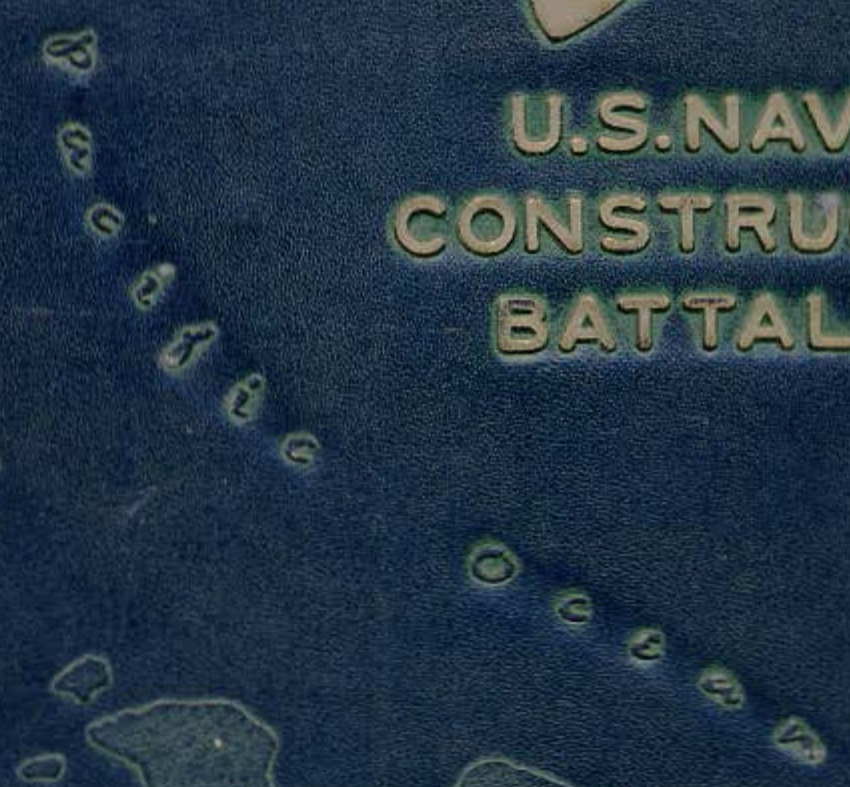




Philippines



**U.S. NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION**



New Guinea

REAR ADMIRAL JOHN J. MANNING

91ST NCB REUNION JUNE 30, 1973
PORT HUENEME, CALIF.

91ST NCB REUNION JUNE 25, 1983
PORT HUENEME, CA.

Lawrence J. Wehler, Jr. March 17, 1984,

4/20/84 John J. Neto 2451 OLIVERA, RD (E-6) CONCORD, CA 94521

7/9/84 Willard E. Wright - New Port Richey, Florida 33552

1/11/85 Mark & Mickey Glatwick Pennsylvania

2/21/87 Paul L. Falseth 160 NATA Ct Vallejo, Ca 94590

1/13/88 William F. Robertson - 2530 Cattlewood Drive SACRAMENT CAL 95821

5/27/88 JACK STEINHARDT 10032 ODESSA AVE SEPULVEDA, CA 91343
1/30/89 R. J. SMITH 13 HOYT ST. BREWSTER, MA 01509

5/2/91 Marvin Dettlbeck 4603 Northbrook Toledo, OH 43623

CHUCK KRAMER 144 NAVAJO S. THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91362

2/27/93 Philip Burnett Long Island, N.Y.

6/25/93 Bert Herbert Naples, FL.

6/25/93 Arnold M. Masook Kean

6/25/93 August Eberhard

6/25/93 NAT PEYZANT

Frank Curdolo

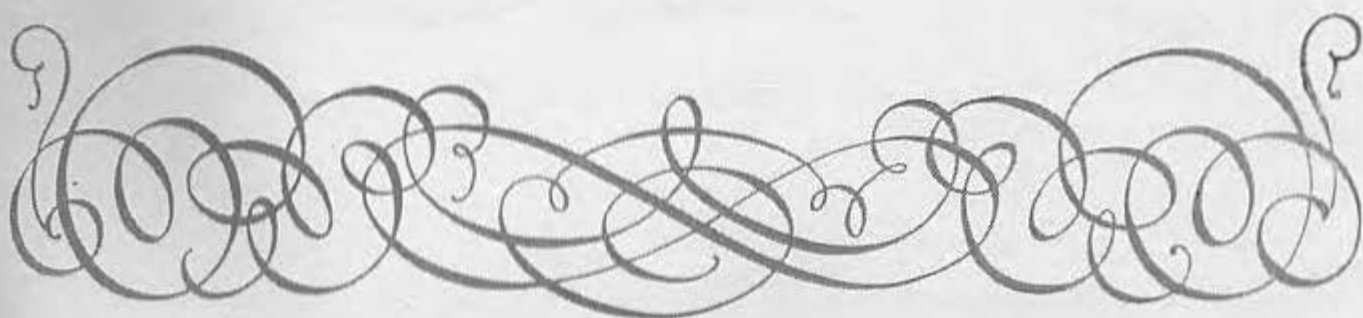
Clifford Arnes - Seattle

Alan Stronberg

Jan Waters Brockton Ma



A HISTORY
of the
NINETY - FIRST
NAVAL CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION
1943 - 1945



Norman S. Xaverius 2615 MARINA BLVD. SAN LEANDRO, CALIF. 94577
 ROBERT 'BOB' ENGEL ^{170 173-93-93} 11 MAYNES AVE. ALBANY N.Y. (518) 415-483-2
 CHARLES "CHUCK" KRAMER ^{144 NAVATO AV THOUSAND OAKS} ~~13707 EXHIBIT 5~~ ~~THOUSAND OAKS~~ CALIF. (949) ~~777-0320~~ ~~777-0320~~ ~~777-0320~~ 415-3953
 DONALD BEREMANN 3437 E YORKSHIRE RD. PASADENA CA (213) 792-8306 7/1

John D. Schief 2161 W 25 #26 SAN PEDRO CA. 213 833 3348 8/31/11
 John N. Frite 222 W 77 ~~St~~ Indianapolis Ind 46260 11/15/11
 Chester R. Philbin 5835 Edmund Ave La Cuserte Ca 248-2197 8/23/11
 John G. Nite 2451 Oliviera Rd Apt. F-6 Concord, Ca. 415-650-707
 A E Ackerman 25662 Newhall Ave Newhall Calif 805-255-0716 94526

Manny Marfield 2650 So. Beverly Dr. LOS ANGELES, Calif -213-8383166 4-16-83
 Clyde Minard 913 Keswick Pl, Glendora CA 91740 213 914 5530 90034
 Keith Moore 214 4th Ave SW Sidney Md. 5927 6-24-89
 William Nelson 3109 E Cortez Bklyn NY 85028 7-16-83
 John N. Pasquale 416 HIERING AVE SEA SIDE HEIGHTS, NJ 08751 201-793-4512

James Bradley 508 Benj. Frank Hwy. E. Douglassville, Pa 19518 815-385-07-11-90
 Frank Carda 1708 RITA ST. SARASOTA FL. 34231-813-966-4
 Frank Curatolo 130 Boulton Ave Hackensack N.J. 07601-301-487-61
 Buck Stephens 405 W18 Sulphur OK 73086
 Bill Antu. 16921 Inglewood Rd. N.E. Bethell Wash 98041

Dante Lucciano 55 R Melvin ST. Wakefield Mass 01880
 Alfred F Smith 52 Longshore Drive Barrington N.H.
 John G. Nite 2931 ARGUELLO, DR. A. STOCKTON CA. 95209
 The Bruce Benjamin Family 7982 Larkin Dr, Citrus Heights, Ca
 Roy Jack Smith 919 NORTH 10TH Frederick OKLA. 73542

Perry Webb 210-W Tansum El Paso TX 75036
 Chuck Bertolini 524 So. Stephenson Royal Oak, Mi 48067
 Ray Eaton 11502 de Ruthelew La. Ca 90047

.. **Dedicated** ..

To those loved ones at home
who brightened those long
and lonely months of exile
with their cheering letters





• **FOREWORD** •



The Seabees came into being shortly after Pearl Harbor when the Navy found itself in dire need of advance bases from which its fighting fleets could engage the advancing Japanese. Construction men were hastily recruited and, after a short period of military training, were rushed to the advance areas where they built air strips, harbor facilities and other naval installations, often while under enemy attack. These pioneer battalions paved the way for the many thousands of Seabees to follow and tales of their prowess and courage have inspired the later battalions "along the road to Tokyo".

The Ninety-first Battalion is more than proud to be a part of this great organization. Not for a moment during these two years in the steaming jungles of the South Pacific did any of its members lose heart or falter by the wayside. The combined efforts of the officers and men, working together in complete harmony, have produced results unsurpassed by any other Seabee battalion.

This book will be a history of your life while with this battalion. You can be justly proud to point out in it the jobs your outfit completed, pictures of your buddies, your camps, athletic teams—all wonderful memories in the years to come.

I am indeed proud to have had the honor of being your commanding officer. I have never associated or worked with a finer group of men.

LOUIS F. HEWETT

**COMMANDER
LOUIS F. HEWETT
CEC USNR
Officer-in-Charge**



Now in his third year as *Officer-in-Charge* of the 91st Construction Battalion, Commander Hewett has been largely responsible for the efficient organization and smooth-working operation of this naval unit. By modelling his battalion strictly along the lines of a private construction firm, he has managed to keep red-tape to a minimum while getting the job done in the shortest possible time.

In private life Commander Hewett has been for many years president and chief engineer of one of New York's leading contracting firms. Under his direction this company has completed many large construction contracts in the metropolitan area, including a section of the New York subway system, the roadway and approaches to the Pulaski Skyway, in addition to many hotel, apartment and office buildings. This company has also owned and operated granite quarries at Gloucester, Mass., as well as a large paving-block business.

A graduate of New York University, the Commander served as a First Lieutenant in the Army Engineers during World War I. He has long been a member of both the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Society of Mili-

tary Engineers and has written several articles for the engineering journals.

On the personal side the Skipper is very much a family man. Mrs. Hewett and daughter, Ellen, are residing in New York while Robert is following in his dad's military footsteps as an officer in a neighboring Seabee battalion. Father and son enjoyed a several-day reunion at our first base in New Guinea.

For a man no longer in the first blush of youth, the Skipper plays a slashing game of tennis, is a reliable volley ball man and has long been a mainstay at second base on the officers' softball team. His fame as the genial host of the "Scorpion's Club" has spread throughout the Pacific and many a visiting dignitary has been wined and dined within those famed portals.

Through his active promotion of all battalion sports and entertainment the Commander has done much to foster the fine spirit of harmony that exists among the men and officers—which spirit has accounted for much of our success on our overseas construction assignments.



EXECUTIVE STAFF





LT.-COMDR. BURTH A. JOHNSON
Executive Officer



Mr. Takacs is also a charter member of the battalion from the Camp Allen days. At our first base he supervised the building of the Naval hospital Navy 722, the plan and construction of which was highly praised throughout the area. Since that time Mr. Takacs has been in charge of all our construction operations as well as acting as Personnel Officer.

During his college days Mr. Takacs played varsity football at Rice Institute and Rutgers University, graduating from the latter institution in 1927. In civilian life he acted as superintendent of construction on many large industrial projects in the East. A married man, Mr. Takacs makes his home in Springfield, N. J. He takes a keen interest in all sports and is an excellent tennis player.

As Executive Officer Mr. Johnson has had charge of the administrative functions of the battalion and has supervised the general layout and design of our projects. He was Officer-in-Charge of the detachment that did such fine work on the amphibious repair base at Alexishaven. His collateral duties as Security Officer and general expeditor manage to keep him pretty busy.

Mr. Johnson received his engineering education at Armour Tech in Chicago and during his 17 years of general construction experience throughout the Midwest he has accumulated a wide knowledge of construction methods and materials.

Mrs. Johnson and the three children, Richard, Herbert, and Diane are living in Chicago where they are no doubt stocking up those black Havana cigars in preparation for his homecoming.



LT. RALPH A. TAKACS
Operations Officer



LT. COMDR. JACK HAMMOND, MC USNR

Doctor Hammond, our senior medical officer, joined us in New Guinea and lost no time in setting up a flourishing practice. His air of cheerful assurance has comforted many a dirt-stained construction casualty and his spotless sick bay is anything but gloomy while the Doctor is making his rounds.

After completing his education at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia Doctor Hammond spent several years at the Lincoln Hospital in New York City before entering the service in 1941. His wife and small son, Robert E., are residing in Bronx, N. Y., and, like the rest of us, he is anxiously awaiting THAT DAY . . .

LT. WILBUR A. STONE, DC USNR

Doctor Stone joined us in June, 1944, as battalion dental officer and since that time has experienced no trouble in keeping his appointment book filled far in advance.

A graduate of the University of New Hampshire in 1938, Doctor Stone completed his studies at Tufts College Dental School. Still listed among the eligible bachelors, he plays a mean game of tennis and is interested in all sports.



LT. REGIS J. BOYLE, ChC USNR

Our new Chaplain comes to us from the state of Pennsylvania where he received his early religious training at St. Anne's College in Scranton. He has led a rather nomadic existence during his many years of missionary work throughout the Eastern U. S.

As the only representative of his faith on our crowded little island Chaplain Boyle has regularly held services for our neighboring Navy units in addition to his regular religious duties with the battalion.

OFFICERS



LT. ALBERT H. HOPPER, ChC USNR

As this article is being written Chaplain Hopper is on his way back to the states after completing his Pacific tour of duty. During his year with the battalion he won the respect and confidence of all hands and leaves behind him many close friends.

Originally from the West, Chaplain Hopper now makes his home in Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, where his wife and two small children, John and Carol, are now residing. While with the battalion the Chaplain was an enthusiastic tennis and volley ball player and a strong supporter of our battalion athletic teams.



LT. (jg) FRANK J. MAGEE, SC USNR

Mr. Magee joined us at our first base in New Guinea and has since served very capably as battalion supply officer.

After graduating from Northwestern University in 1938, Mr. Magee operated his own steel brokerage business in Chicago until he entered the Navy in 1943. He is very fond of flying and took instruction in the states in addition to receiving several free lessons from the Air Corps in New Guinea. Though still unmarried he claims to have found a girl willing to overlook that mass of freckles, so his marital status may undergo a decided change in the near future.

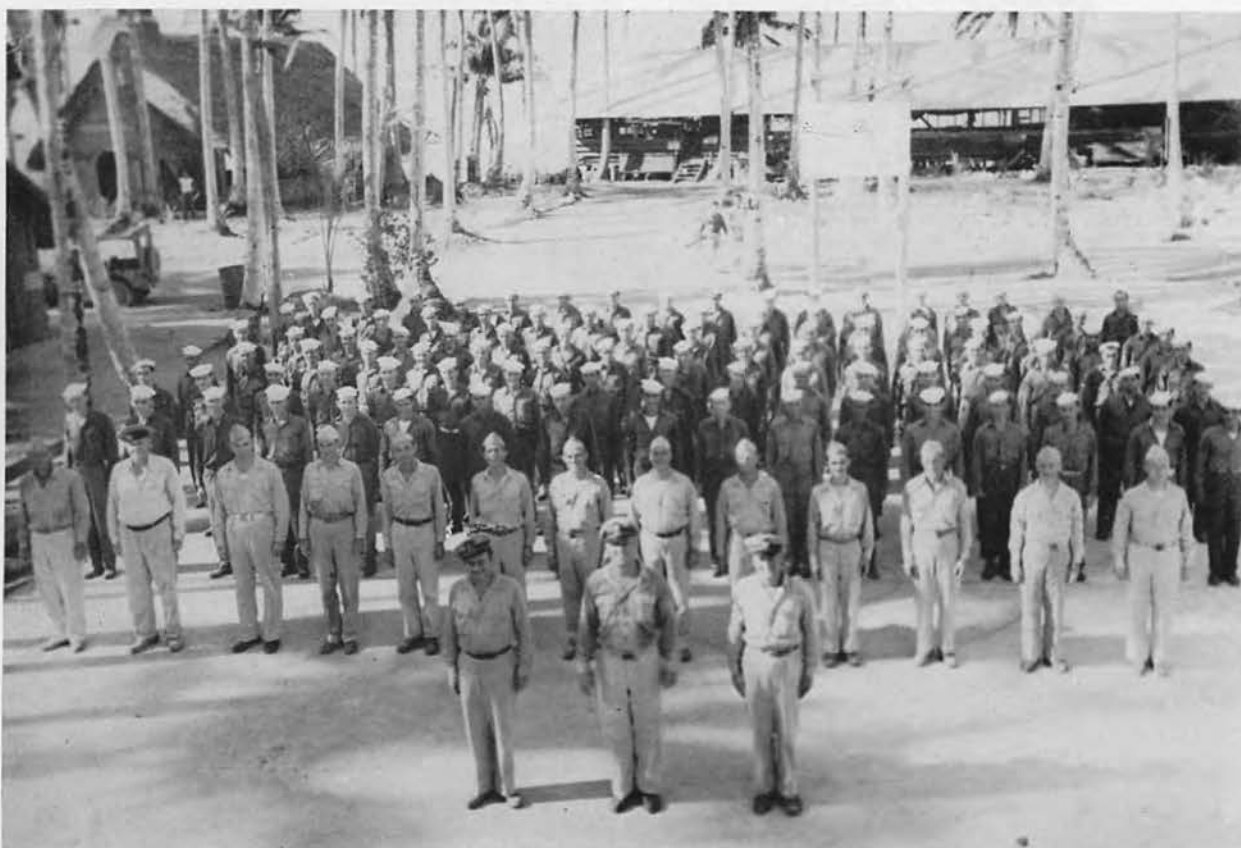
ENS. NATHAN M. PRYZANT, SC USNR

Mr. Pryzant has served as battalion disbursing officer since joining us in New Guinea and has also acted as civilian affairs officer since our arrival in the Philippines.

A native of Houston, Texas, Mr. Pryzant came directly into the naval service from Rice Institute. In his official dealings with the local citizens on our island base he had plenty of trouble learning to pronounce such names as Sadongdong, Macapogas and Badoedoc. A single man with pronounced wolfish tendencies, he trained his hair for weeks with coconut oil in preparation for a leave in Manila and was deeply chagrined when the Commander vetoed this little jaunt. Nothing daunted, he is now rumored to be working on plans for a similar invasion of Tokyo.



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



CWO. EMMETT L. BROWN, Hdq. Company Comdr.

Our hard-working shops officer is an "old salt" having served a youthful hitch in the peacetime Navy. In 1936, after several years as a civilian employee at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, he joined the New York City Police Force from which he migrated to the Seabees, having been with the battalion since its inception.

Back in Queens, N. Y., Mr. Brown has a wife and 18-year-old daughter, "Butch", impatiently awaiting his return. He is a vigorous baseball fan and his ruddy countenance and stentorian voice are familiar to many metropolitan rooters. While overseas he has coached our battalion softball team to many victories and to the championship of this base.



CWO. JERRY C. McBAIN

Mr. McBain joined us in the Philippines and supervised highway and barracks construction on that assignment.

As a civilian Mr. McBain was a construction superintendent on highway and dam projects, being one of those hardy souls responsible for the construction of the Alcan Highway as well as our Newfoundland air bases. He attended North Dakota School of Forestry and has a wife and six-year-old daughter, Joanne, waiting for him in Minneapolis.



CWO. THOMAS T. EILERTS

Mr. Eilerts has supervised dock and barracks construction since joining the battalion in the Philippines.

After receiving his engineering education at the University of Missouri and at Louisiana State, Mr. Eilerts specialized in structural iron and bridge construction prior to his entry into the service. He was recently honored by being awarded a seat at Chief Warrant Officer Carragher's dinner table which indicates that the Dean of the Warrant Officers has his eye on this man and we can expect big things from him.



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



Section I

First Row: (l to r) Knight, Randolph R.; Manley, Stuart H.; Bilyeu, Glenn; McClendon, Delmas B.; Cheleen, Julius O.; Martin, William A.; Guard, Jack D.

Second Row: Buonassi, Michael C.; Kramer, Charles; Carlon, Gerald; Ognacevic, Peter J.; Polos, Nick, Jr.; Knoll, Dale M.; Wogan, Robert J.; Brown, William J.

Third Row: Ryman, Robert A.; Banzen, Louis L.; Bierch, Edward J.; Deffenbaugh, Charles E.; Parker, Stanley B.; McGovern, William J.; Cunningham, George B., Jr.

Fourth Row: Wells, Charles E.; Kupperstein, George; Rogers, Reece J.; Fortner, John; Longtine, Robert P.; Bradley, James; Golightly, Roy T.

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



Section 2

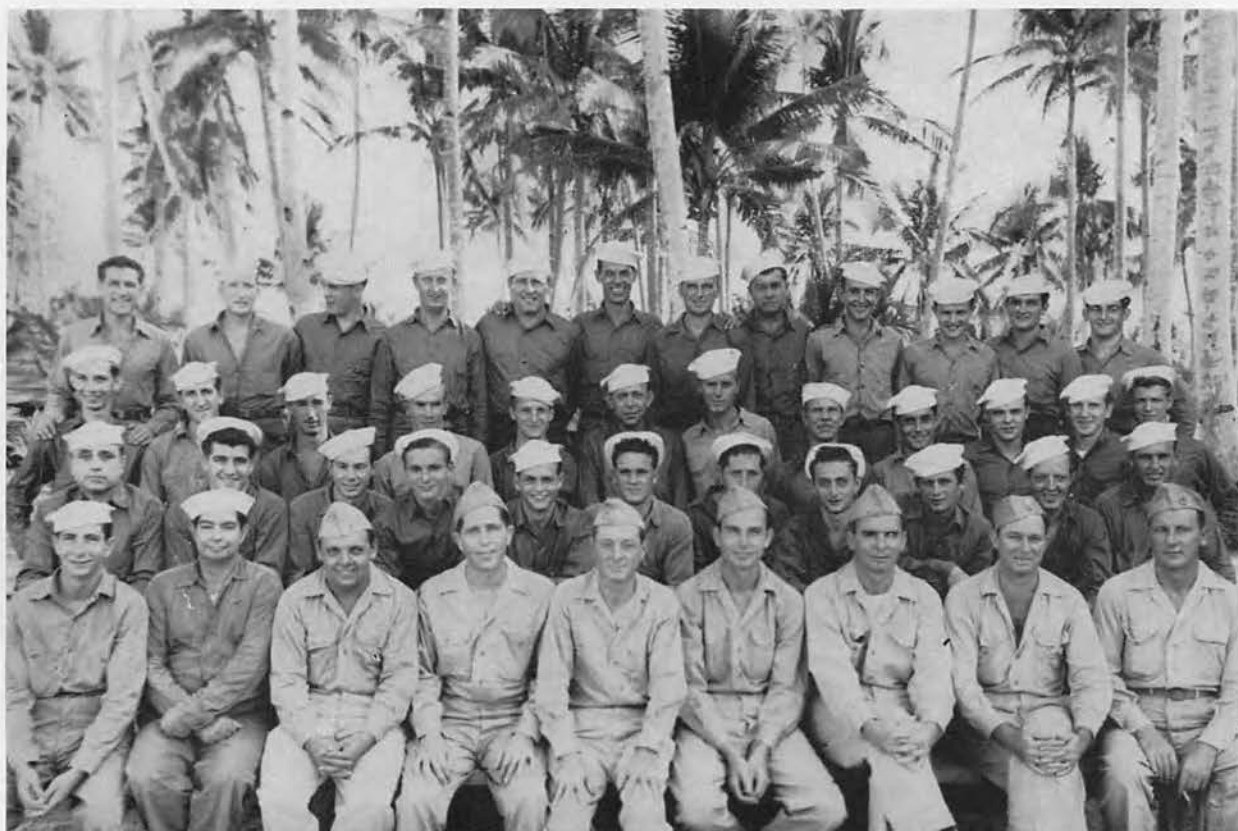
First Row (l to r) Philbrick, Chester R.; Smalley, Edwin B.; Keener, Hollis G. Towey, Jack V.; Grace, James J.; Webber, Charles D.; Maxwell, Kenneth M.; Lyons, Daniel G.

Second Row: Kent, Clyde J.; Harris, Charles W.; Schreder, Marvin; Hartshorne, Duane W.; Aiken, Robert L.; Worfe, Frank B.; Sanford, William R.

Third Row: York, Lloyd C.; Lewis, Arthur W.; Kasson, Donald S.; Oman, Carl H., Jr.; Jackson, Howard F.; Blevins, Jack D.; Cuzzo, Frank; Wagner, John R.

Fourth Row: Bogner, Hubert F.; Liteofsky, Henry; Lester, James F.; Farnum, Clevern M.; Kondayan, Edward R.; DiNinno, Oliver; Russo, Michael; Turcich, Harold; Faccione, Joseph

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY



Section 3

First Row: (l to r) Catalano, Joseph A.; Bertroche, Clem R.; Van Eenennaam, John F.; Vokes, Edwin H.; Cherry, Joseph H.; Fiete, Don W.; McComsey, Theodore R.; Holliday, Edwin J.; Clark, Harley J.

Second Row: Rutland, Marvin; Ruocco, Anthony A.; Lake, Samuel S., Jr.; Lucivjansky, Michael J.; Hoyle, Blaine E.; Arnes, Clifford H.; Miller, Philip P.; Ciancioso, Alfred L.; Janis, Stanley J.; Van Dort, Cornelious H.; Hobbs, Jack B.

Third Row: Troxell, Daniel E.; Evans, Edward B.; Baxter, William Walter T.; Lampers, John H.; Benko, Michael G.; Durham, Willard W.; Larsen, L.; Larisch, Demeter; Eberhard, August; Dye, Earl W.; Morello, Frank J.; King, Frank C.

Fourth Row: Sokol, Louis; Kiefer, Carl C.; Brasher, James R.; Iverson, Johnny; Bell, Virgil H.; Hale, Leslie C.; Long, George D.; Trotti, Ira Lawrence; Crosby, Raymond T.; Dettlebach, Marvin; Campbell, Raymond J.; Mussie, Harry



Company A

LT. JOHN S. GUTHRIE, Company Comdr.

Mr. Guthrie has acted as battalion transportation officer since joining us in New Guinea and as such is charged with the difficult task of "keeping 'em rolling".

A native Texan, Mr. Guthrie has been engaged in highway engineering and construction in his home state since his graduation from Texas Tech in 1936. His wife and three-year-old son, John S. "Firetop", Jr., are living at Stephenville, Texas.

An enthusiastic victory gardener, Mr. Guthrie was doing all right here on the island until some of the local heifers located his "corn patch" and left it looking like downtown Tokyo after a B-29 raid.



COMPANY A



LT. (jg) JOHN E. BAWDEN

Mr. Bawden left the University of Nevada in 1938 with a Civil Engineering degree and a closetful of basketball, football and tennis trophies. He was engaged in highway construction in his home state before entering the service and has continued his road-building efforts with considerable success in New Guinea as well as in the Philippines. He's very much a married man and has pictures of a lovely wife and two handsome children, Jackie, 4, and Jane Ellen, 2, to support his claims. His fine coaching has aided our basketball team in running up its amazing winning streak of nearly 52 straight games.

In his lighter moments, Mr. Bawden's known weaknesses are beer, tennis and western stories while his fine baritone voice has been favorably received in many South Pacific gin-mills.

ENSIGN JOHN S. LOEFFLER, CEC USNR

Mr. Loeffler joined the battalion just as we were leaving New Guinea for the Philippines and has been working on dock and barracks construction since that time. He received his engineering education at the University of Minnesota and the University of Michigan before plunging directly into the military way of life.

Still a little young for the rigors of married life, Mr. Loeffler makes his home with his family in St. Paul. That worried frown and air of intense concentration that he wears on the job rapidly disappears when the sun goes down and the real Loeffler emerges for a roistering evening with his brother ensigns.



C.W.O. EDWARD J. SIMKONIS

As head of our electrical department Mr. Simkonis has supervised our light and power installations on our various construction projects. He is one of the original officers assigned to the battalion at Camp Allen and is proud to be known as one of the "Old Timers".

In civilian life Mr. Simkonis was engaged in radio and electrical engineering in his home town of Worcester, Mass. He has two brothers and a sister in the service but, to date, has neglected starting a family of his own. He still remains one of those so-called carefree bachelors but a little state-side duty might change all that.

COMPANY A



Platoon 1

First Row: (l to r) Brogan, Frank J.; Peers, John F.; Pio, Ernest; Bentsen, Alfred E.; Jones, Thomas A.; Riddle, Bennett H.; Ward, Robert C.

Second Row: Doggett, John L.; Kelly, Joseph C.; Dreibelbies, George J.; Merrill, Alton W.; Johnson, William, Jr.; Cummings, Wilbur R.; Comeau, Louis R.

Third Row: Sanders, Leonard C.; Berry, Marvin L.; Kauffman, William W.; Kurtz, Joseph A.; Bartkus, Peter P.; Langevin, Bernard A.; Cable, Jesse R., Jr.

Fourth Row: Alexander, Lee J.; Camuti, Anthony J.; Grisley, William C.; Schwanzl, William J.; Gornick, Louis F.; Albers, Henry M.; Foster, Ralph W.; Welch, William A.

COMPANY A



Platoon 2

First Row: (l to r) Wilson, James E.; Long, Joseph F.; Kelly, Joseph A.; Burger, John C.; Kimbrell, John W.; Nobles, Morris E.; Hoffman, Charles R.

Second Row: Lane, Rodney W.; Currier, Charles J.; Brenneman, Dale M.; Palmisano, Anthony R.; Toolen, Jack W.; Reed, Edwin D.; Butts, William E.; Monroe, George A.

Third Row: Lewis, Roger O.; Pittman, Charles H.; Clipper, Joseph O.; Hagan, Arthur W.; Hammett, Howard F.; Cokeley, Harry, Jr.; Rodriguez, William J.

Fourth Row: Tillery, James T.; Sims, Willis A.; Moberly, Russell J.; Barrow, William D.; Langley, James R.; Greiling, Paul R.; Rawlings, Bishop L.; Eaton, Raymond A.; Yates, Charles O.

COMPANY A



Platoon 3

First Row: (l to r) Brunelle, Larry J.; Slane, Irvin L.; Dixon, John C.; Langford, James L.; Heskett, Ray; McCowin, Jay A.; Henderson, Grant I.

Second Row: Johnson, Andrew; Haag, Melvin C.; Rickman, Francis E.; Allen, Albert H.; Beam, Isaac A.; Hampton, Charles E.; Van Schoyck, Richard D.; Williams, John H.; Peppler, William D.; King, Harry S.

Third Row: Marriott, George B.; West, Maurice S.; Cox, Charles W.; Fasulka, Paul; Alexander, Oscar F.; Glaze, Donald A.; Fowler, L. W.; Nielsen, Jack H.; Jordahl, Arthur O.; Baer, Charles L.

COMPANY A



Platoon 4

First Row: (l to r) Signorile, Vincent J.; Buchanan, Dean R.; Anderson, Carl D.; Garrison, William; Sisson, Charles T.; Giacinto, Carmine L.; Kneeland, Thomas M.

Second Row: Ranck, Marlin G.; Gutshall, Frederick W.; Fagert, Jack E.; Nemeksis, John P.; Brown, Calvin P.; Smith, Albert L.; Proctor, Melvin C.; Rhine, Coy J.; Collins, Glenn I.

Third Row: Roehrig, Clarence S.; Abbott, Kirk H., Jr.; Meacham, Richard H.; Roehm, John G.; Bilek, Joseph, Jr.; Glantz, Ralph L.; Chlumsky, Anthony W.; Kendall, Pierce D.

Fourth Row: Johns, Everett W.; Arnesen, Haakon A.; Ditemore, Donald R.; Doby, Walter J.; Lovell, Timothy W.; Orosz, John; Blix, Bjarne H.; Anderson, Samuel G.; Bender, Samuel H.

COMPANY A



Platoon 5

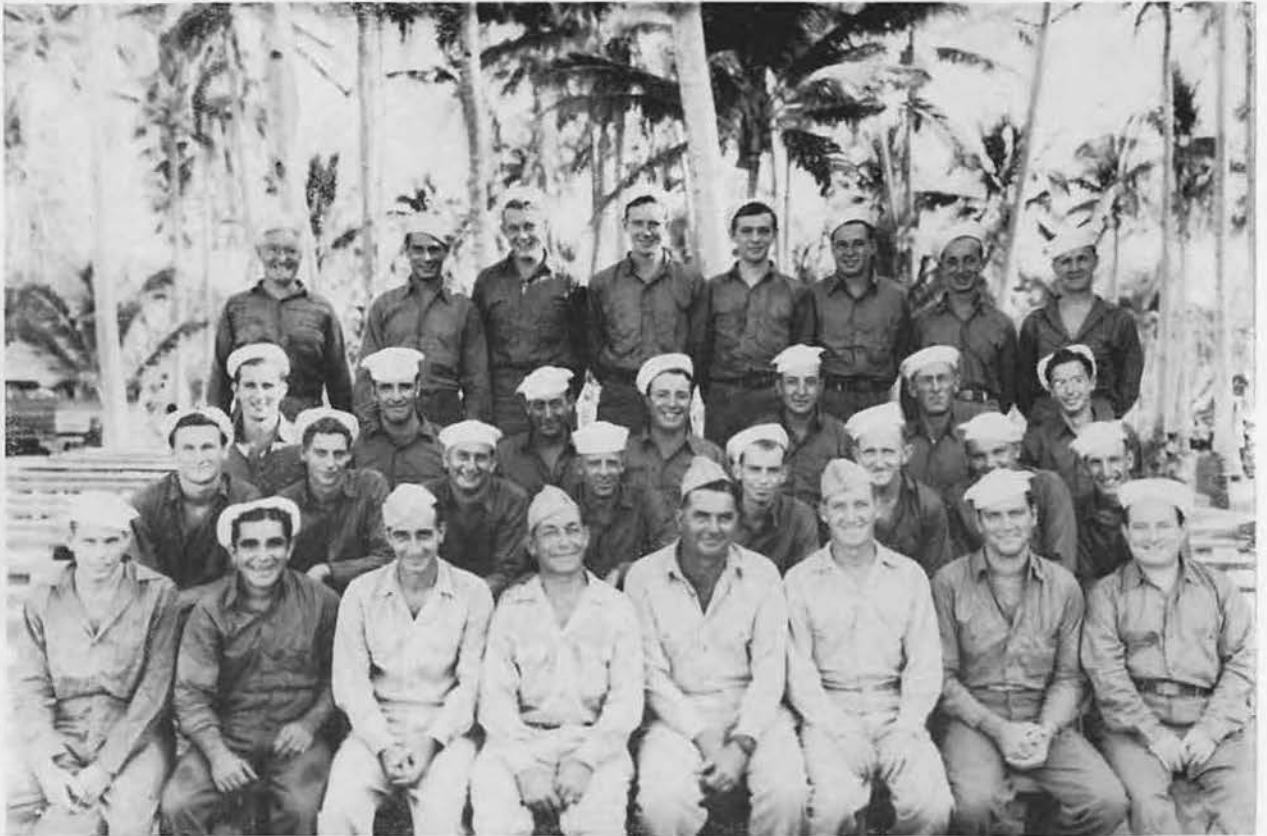
First Row: (l to r) Rendon, Walter R.; Engel, Robert; Cooper, George E., Jr.; Caldwell, Jerry W.; League, Joe A.; Evon, James A.

Second Row: Marinovich, Marco Joseph; Long, Howard G.; Svorcina, John S.; Terzo, Joseph; Thompson, Frank C.; Vogel, Abner; Starner, Paul W.

Third Row: Bunich, John; Barile, Jacob; Custer, Richard J.; Speicher, William E.; Willard, Marvin A.; Biggs, Kenneth L.; Hoyt, Jack; Szillage, Robert K.; Fitzgerald, John L.

Fourth Row: Brooks, Everett A.; Fliszar, Steve; Nealon, Charles F.; Bell, Mitchell; Steinberg, Morris; DeLorenzo, Nicholas A.; Chick, Bernard A.; DiBiase, Mario J.

COMPANY A



Platoon 6

First Row: (l to r) Triplett, James K.; George, Ernest C.; McGuire, Frank E.; Phelps, Thomas R.; Sawyer, John Edwin; Payne, John W.; Cochrane, Richard H.; Ward, Thomas N.

Second Row: Beggs, Milton L.; Froggatt, Merton E.; Rosko, Joseph F.; Price, Julius A.; Knowles, Martin A.; O'Reilly, Thomas B.; Paschka, Warren F.; Scott, Donald E.

Third Row: Bogucki, Edward J.; Behmlander, Gerhardt O.; Crawford, George L.; Everman, William R.; McDonald, Patrick H.; Earl, Robert F.; Landon, LeRoy R.

Fourth Row: Dawson, James S.; Page, Evert P.; Jordan, William F.; Breisacher, Melvin H.; Carroll, William A.; Sutton, John H.; Bonesteel, William J.; Calloway, Frank R.



Company B

LT. RALPH D. BEALL, CEC USNR

Mr. Beall has been a member of the battalion since its earliest days and is principally known as the man who led those "Brisbane Commandos" on their venture into the wilds of Australia.

In civilian life Mr. Beall graduated from Georgia Tech in 1939 and was engaged in heavy construction work before entering the service in 1942. Originally a "Georgia cracker" he now makes his home in Brooklyn where his wife and small son, Ralph, Jr., whom he is still to meet, are now residing. His combined Georgia-Flatbush accent is a bit confusing to strangers but his B Company boys seem to be able to understand him without difficulty.



COMPANY B



LT. (jg) SHELDON K. SOLOMON, CEC USNR

Mr. Solomon is another whose initiation into the battalion took place during those dark wintry days at Camp Allen. He has been in charge of all our concrete operations here in the Philippines.

Mr. Solomon graduated from City College of New York in 1941 and worked in industrial construction before joining the service. As a "single Yank" he cut a mighty swath through Sidney and Brisbane while on detached duty in Australia, but present indications seem to point towards a quiet domestic future when he returns to dear old Brooklyn.

C.W.O. RICHARD S. SHIRK, CEC USNR

One of the original members of the battalion, Mr. Shirk has had charge of many of our earth-moving projects in addition to spending several months on dock construction.

In civilian life Mr. Shirk has acted as superintendent of highway and bridge construction for the Pennsylvania Department of Highways for the past several years. His wife and two sons, Richard, 8, and Robert, 4, are residing in Lebanon, Pa.

That faint tinge of gray in Mr. Shirk's hair is commonly reported to date back to that rainy night in New Guinea when he and two brother officers were trapped by a cloudburst and forced to spend the night huddled together in the jungles along Wehuria Creek.



C.W.O. ARTHUR R. GRAB, CEC USNR

Mr. Grab joined the battalion just before our embarkation from the states and has been responsible for many of our electrical installations in New Guinea and Australia. He has handled our procuring and stevedoring activities while in the Philippines.

In civilian life Mr. Grab was in the electrical contracting business in Chicago where his wife and 18-year-old daughter, Ruth, are now residing. While in the Philippines he promoted a meeting with his son James who was serving aboard a destroyer escort in the area. He still has difficulty getting used to this tropical climate after those eight months with the Brisbane Commandos but soon hopes to be re-acclimated.

COMPANY B



Platoon I

First Row: (l to r) Kubishta, Nick M.; Delaney, Joseph; Anderson, George L.; Farmer, Chester M.; Rakes, Dexter C., Jr.; Rice, Beverly H.; Lilla, Michael J.

Second Row: Thomas, Rola R., Jr.; Cohen, Charles S.; McMillan, Darian F.; Skidmore, Richard B.; Bradford, Wendell R.; Kleckner, Noble K.; Decroo, Kenneth L.

Third Row: Hewitt, Eugene H.; Barker, James T.; Quigley, Daniel J.; McGarvey, John B.; McCloskey, Maurice R.; Ramstad, Allan B.; Sanders, Richard; Schmitt, William F.

Fourth Row: Rafferty, Philip J.; Lazas, Michael; Doll, Robert E.; Williams, Earl F; Millwater, Thomas C.; Fischer, Mervin O.; Bertolini, Charles C.; Carey, Henry F.

COMPANY B



Platoon 2

First Row: (l to r) Powell, Herbert J.; Meredith, Clark C.; Hall, George A.; Schneider, Otto A.; Estes, Lyle W.; Anderson, Clifford J.; O'Connor, James W.

Second Row: Wolff, John J.; Tucker, Robert C.; Rice, Harry E.; Howard, John R.; Jones, Ralph L.; Radinovich, Edward L.; Stephens, Luther B.

Third Row: Vaughn, Russell G.; Dirksen, John J.; Mumford, Grant L.; Gould, Albert L.; Chiselli, Benito; Krithinithis, Nick; Waldo, Raymond H.

COMPANY B



Platoon 3

First Row: (l to r) High, Richard J.; Allgire, Ralph W.; Nelson, Michael J.; Roesner, Harry H.; Devine, Joseph R.; Dalu, Ralph W.; Willis, Howard E.

Second Row: Snyder, Richard T.; Fail, Bobbie J.; Wotton, Sherwood E.; Mikula, James; Ferkinhoff, Cletus W.; Miller, Richard L.

Third Row: Zabihaylo, Steve J.; Melnik, Nicholas; Dering, Jack; Gentile, Alfred F.; Wood, Samuel D.

COMPANY B



Platoon 4

First Row: (l to r) Przybylski, Joseph A.; Byrne, John E.; Menhorn, Kenneth S.; Bixler, Ernest S.; Van Sickle, Daniel R.; Greenlee, Richard H.; Barksdale, Marvin M.

Second Row: Johnson, LeRoy R.; Luciano, Dante O.; Brown, Ernest D., Jr.; Solebello, Louis P.; Richmond, John D., Jr.; Mowry, Edward L.; Hoffman, Harold M.; Cotter, James J.

Third Row: Orr, Jacob D.; Winters, James J.; Schupp, Ernest W.; Katilus, Joseph E.; Stromberg, Alton L.; Johnson, Norvel G.; Siener, Laurel K.; White, Harry I.

Fourth Row: Tarnoff, Joseph G.; Palmeri, Baptiste; Stabile, Andrew L.; Elliott, George T.; Callaway, Omar C.; Houston, John E.; Roberts, Donald L.; Wronski, William J.; Stone, William A.

COMPANY B



Platoon 5

First Row: (l to r) Sandstrom, Ray T.; Shaver, Gerald A.; Goett, Arnold H.; Odneal, James L.; Cambas, James L.; Altieri, Louis

Second Row: Sheaffer, James G.; Shoup, Lloyd K.; Wright, Joe L.; Junk, Paul M.; Gifford, Arvil L.; DeVito, Carmine

Third Row: Bourque, Gerald J.; Patterson, George L.; Forsythe, Paul L.; Conway, Richard E.; Young, Bertrand J.; Barker, Roger; Catron, John L.; Schmalz, Michael A.; Wall, Joseph P.

COMPANY B



Platoon 6

First Row: (l to r) Truiano, Patrick H.; DeSalvo, Dominic D.; Mardis, Paul O.; Szecheny, Walter A.; Upton, Brooks R.; Johnson, Norman A.; Kennedy, Wayne L.

Second Row: Lockwood, Roger J.; Grabowski, Edward M.; McClain, Orlan D.; Miller, Kenneth C.; Pendergast, Edward F.; Cada, Joseph W.; Johnson, William L.; Schiechl, Wenzel

Third Row: Pratt, Raleigh W.; Reid, Harry E.; Olsen, James A.; Gann, Glenn G.; Bingman, Dale L.; Atwell, Lisle Witt S.; Wahman, Bernard H.; Gibson, Clarence E., Jr.; Hultgren, Earl L.



Company C

LT. JAMES L. RODGERS, CEC USNR, C Company Comdr.

Mr. Rodgers came with the battalion in its earliest days and has supervised much of our overseas building construction.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas, Mr. Rodgers engaged in topographic surveying before entering the heavy construction field. Mrs. Rodgers is living at Denison, Texas. He manages to keep his streamlined figure by working in the huge victory garden that he and Mr. Guthrie have laid out near one corner of their hut, not forgetting his feverish activities around the "Scorpion Club".



COMPANY C



LT. (jg) STANLEY B. PETERS, CEC USNR

Also one of those Camp Allen veterans, Mr. Peters has acted as project officer on varied types of construction from soil stabilization to signal towers.

A single man from Lakewood, N. J., Mr. Peters graduated from Rutgers University in 1941 and did engineering work for the Pennsylvania Railroad before entering the service. In his spare time he has acted as battalion organist and is probably the most consistent movie-goer among the officers. His present hobby is getting back to the U. S.

C.W.O. FRANCIS A. CARRAGHER, CEC USNR

The Dean of the Warrant Officers has been with the battalion since its inception and has specialized in dock and building construction while overseas.

A Navy veteran of the first World War, Mr. Carragher was in the home construction business in New Jersey before his entry into the service. His wife and four children, Jean, 20, Celine, 17, Frank, Jr., 14, and Shirley, 12, are back in Belleville, N. J., awaiting his return.

Bond drive leader, stage artist, athlete, expert head-mover, diving officer—the old fellow really gets around on those slightly-bowed “gams” of his. He once defeated his roommate, “Sonny” Brumm, in a high-stake footrace but that was many months ago before old age started creeping up on him. He is the world's champion ensign hater.



W.O. VICTOR L. SIGMAN, CEC USNR

Mr. Sigman joined the battalion in the Philippines and has supervised barracks construction on that assignment.

A mining engineer in civilian life, Mr. Sigman has followed his profession in Alaska, Peru, Chile and throughout the Western U. S. since finishing his technical training in South Dakota. His present home is in Long Beach, Calif., where Mrs. Sigman is now residing. Being of a quiet nature, he is rarely heard while among his brother Warrant officers but is said to rank high on The Chief Warrant's fitness reports.

COMPANY C



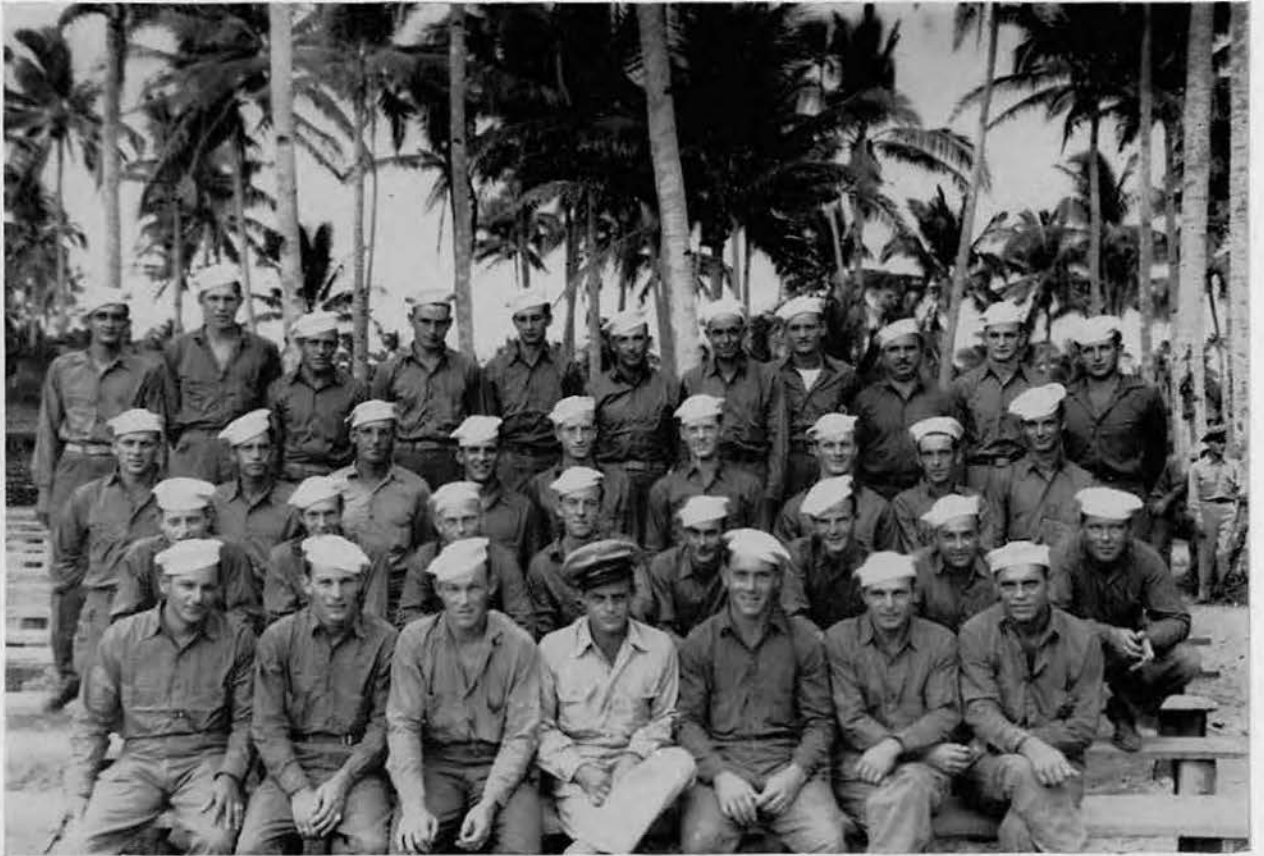
Platoon 1

First Row: (l to r) Longoria, Eutimio A.; Jordan, John A.; Tefft, Chester L.; Mahoney, Joseph J.; Heilman, Frederick L.; Bylsma, Alfred P.

Second Row: McQuillan, Bernard H.; Lachendro, Frank; Reid, Russell W.; O'Connor, Frank E.; Singler, Robert P.; Way, Howard J.

Third Row: Rieschl, James W.; Manchester, Robert F.; Lorenz, John F.; Phelps, Ralph D.

COMPANY C



Platoon 2

First Row: (l to r) Alonzo, Daniel T.; Bowers, Robert A.; Connor, Earl W.; Dennis, Guy; Harrison, Burrell E.; Nemeth, Francis, Sr.; Hearn, Will C.

Second Row: Oullette, Robert A.; Herrick, Dana O., Jr.; Denneson, Marlin W.; Cowan, Loyal W.; Ireland, Keith F.; Lehmann, Joseph J., Jr.; Meyer, Lawrence E.; Ford, Joseph M.

Third Row: Matulis, John J.; Hoglen, John; Armstrong, Robert L.; Halas, Stanley E.; Burnap, Joseph C.; Singleton, George A.; Zahn, Carl C.; Mahon, Richard H.; Siegfried, Jack

Fourth Row: Harstine, George; McMinn, Joel H.; Orcutt, Ernest L.; Bechtel, Zackie; Hough, Gleason L.; Sears, Donald J.; Leseberg, Freddie G.; Kaupp, Merlin C.; Freeman, Roy C.; Sweatman, Alvin D.; Sirkus, Van J.

COMPANY C



Platoon 3

First Row: (l to r) Baldwin, George E., Jr.; Larson, Duane C.; Fennell, James J.; McCain, George E.; Barsovitz, Joseph M.; Frey, Opeo H.

Second Row: Dunkle, Harold M.; Baker, Gerald E.; Gartman, Grady H.; Levi, William; Guinn, Porter; McIntyre, John O.; Kogel, Herbert S.; Hodges, Albert W.

Third Row: Foster, Milton A.; Sutter, Walter H.; Percy, James A.; Reuss, Marlow D.; Whitehead, George O.; Kushmaul, Robert E.; Dougarian, Edward S.

Fourth Row: Krawchuck, Stanley T.; Koontz, Billy D.; Paschal, Renon G.; Miladin, Stephen J.; Allen, Murray M.

COMPANY C



Platoon 4

First Row: (l to r) Kapp, Stanley H.; Woloszyk, Henry P.; Overman, Harold A.; DeGrasse, Sylvester I.; Yagelski, Mathew R.; Rostkoski, John J.

Second Row: Toccalino, Louis F.; Unti, William E.; Smith, Eltis M.; Kavel, Robert E.; Sulanowski, Stephen Joseph, Jr.; Mosher, Alfred J.; McGowan, John J.; Marfield, Manny M.

Third Row: Dodge, Theodore E.; Fox, Herbert J.; Knopic, John, Jr.; McNeill, Robert A.; Dawson, John E.; Close, William E.; Gallo, Ralph M.; Smith, Robert J.

Fourth Row: Hutchinson, George L.; Manthei, Kenneth E.; Savoris, Stephen S.; Ehlert, Everett E.; Hogan, Edward J.; Cadeau, Richard M., Kendzierski, Walter F.; Rulewicz, Adam J.

COMPANY C



Platoon 5

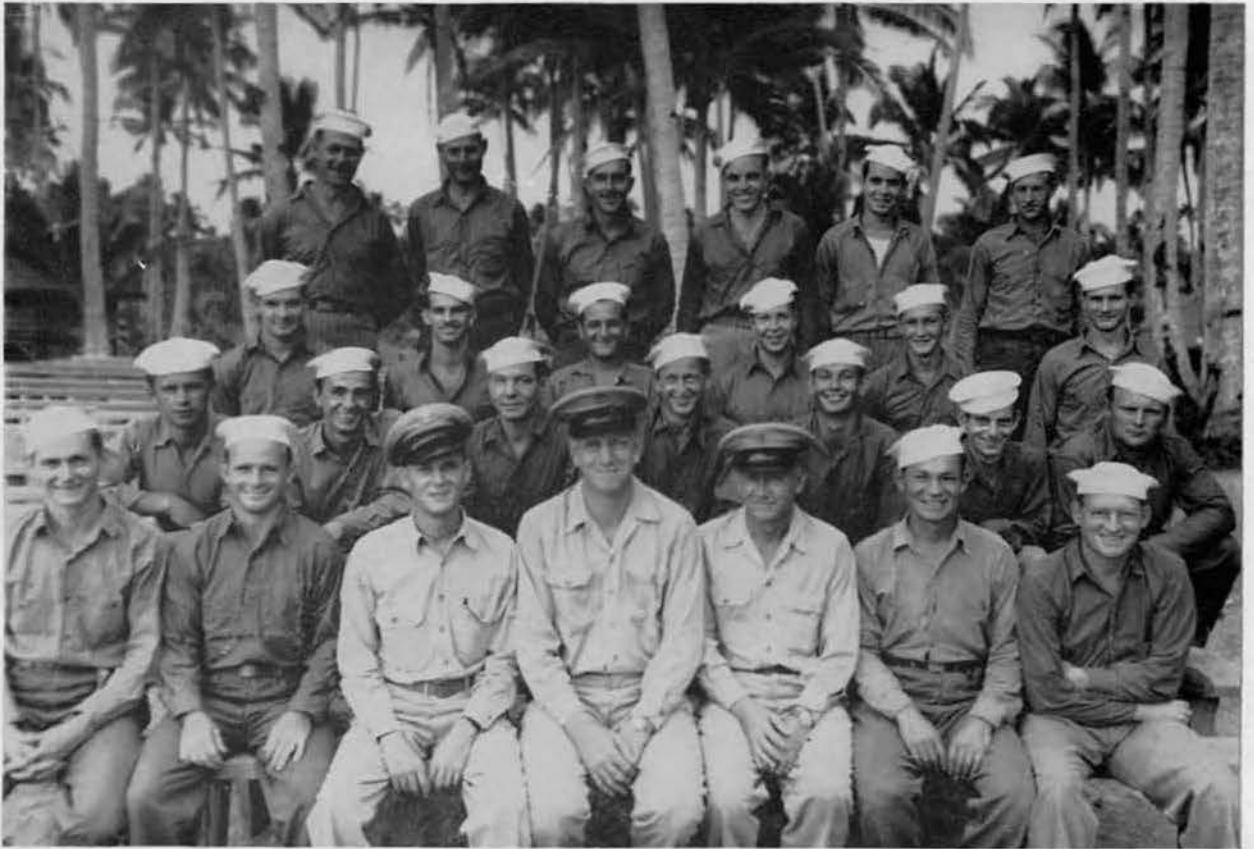
First Row: (l to r) Marookian, Arnold M.; Myers, Leonard D.; Hudson, Harry E.; Cullen, James M.; Crone, Kenneth C.; Edwards, Willie L.; Faulk-ingham, Clyde M.

Second Row: Bierman, George J.; Reardon, Francis R.; Rein, Robert W.; Mueller, Clifford B.; Wareham, Gary W.; Baker, Foster L.; Johnston, George F.; Lentz, Allan A.

Third Row: Dunn, Archie F.; Groenig, Delmar R.; Weckert, Raymond J.; Muegge, Arthur W.; Barnes, Royce V.; Steed, Charles P.; Simon, Gordon W.

Fourth Row: Robbins, James F.; Williamson, Carl A.; DeSantis, Vito J.; Sanders, Walter P.; Helms, David E.; Martin, Clifford L.; Sabo, Louis J.

COMPANY C



Platoon 6

First Row: (l to r) Riddle, Archie A.; Presley, Carlton C.; Schonder, William D.; Peterson, Ernest A.; Johnston, Earl D.; Kaufman, Edwin; Hoffelder, William C.

Second Row: Gilleland, Edward W.; Martoccia, Anthony R.; Smith, John F.; Davis, Milton K.; Downing, Carl W.; Sheffer, John R.; Anderson, James D.

Third Row: Billman, Harry A., Jr.; Davidson, Robbie L.; Duskin, Murray D.; LaChapelle, William F.; Kmiecinski, William J.; Wert, Walter E.

Fourth Row: Kelly, Bernard A.; Petersen, John C.; Parker, Allen B.; Reynolds, Benjamin E.; Larkin, Frederick J.; Skeens, Huge D.



COMPANY D



Company D

LT. JESS W. GINN, CEC USNR, D Co. Comdr.

Mr. Ginn has supervised dock and building construction since joining the battalion in New Guinea. He led our second Alexishaven detachment which received high praise for its excellent work.

An electrical engineer in civilian life, Mr. Ginn received his technical education at the University of California and for quite a few years has specialized in the lay-out and construction of transmission and distribution systems for public utilities. Mrs. Ginn and their 21-year-old daughter, Phyllis, are living in San Francisco and he really gets enthused over his daughter's athletic activities at San Jose State College.



COMPANY D



LT. (jg) JOSEPH P. BURNS

Mr. Burns joined the battalion just before we left the states and has been assigned mainly to dock and building construction while overseas.

After graduating from Notre Dame in 1935, Mr. Burns was engaged in heavy construction work and in aerial mapping before entering the service in 1943. He has a wife and a 2-year-old son, Louis Andrew, residing in Watertown, N. Y., and spends most of his spare moments scheming up ways and means of getting back to this city.

ENSIGN JOHN C. MACLIN, CEC USNR

Mr. Maclin joined the battalion just as we were leaving New Guinea and has been on various construction assignments since that time.

While an engineering student at Georgia Tech Mr. Maclin came into the Navy under the V-12 program. His wife is living at her family home in Dunlap, Tennessee. His favorite sports are tennis and sleeping and even this hot Philippine weather has failed to cut into his "sack time".



C.W.O. ELWOOD GRAHAM

Mr. Graham joined the battalion at Camp Rousseau and has been in charge of our equipment repair and maintenance shops here in the Philippines.

Mr. Graham received his engineering training at Colorado State and has since been engaged in highway construction throughout the Western U. S. His wife is now living at Phoenix, Arizona. With his red-headed partner, Mr. Carragher, he has added zest to several of our stage shows while his spectacular fumbles have been a big help to the battalion chiefs in their never-ending series of softball encounters with the officers.

COMPANY D



*Eldon D. Moyers BUC
helped build this
museum in 1956*

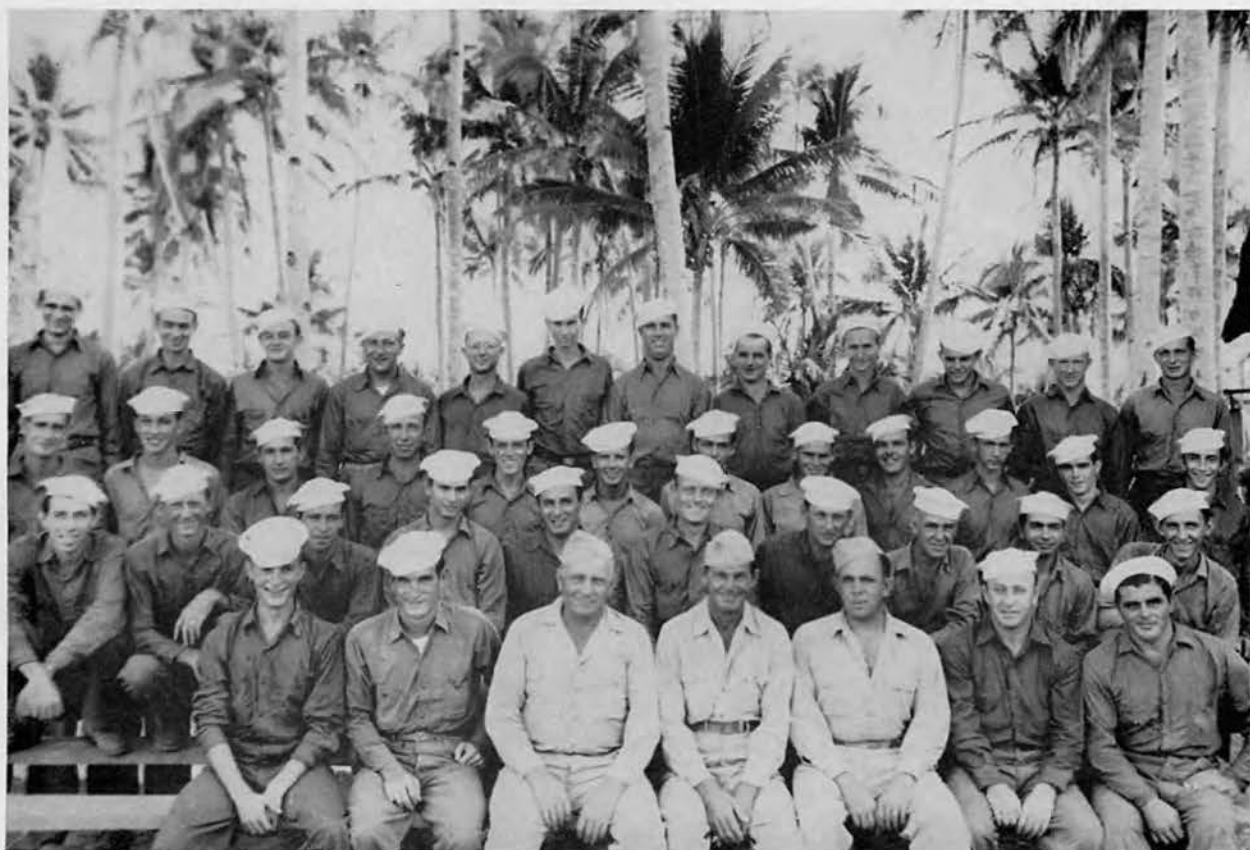
Platoon 1

First Row: (l to r) Stoddard, William F.; Moyers, Eldon D.; Harling, Edmund W.; Bailey, Oliver W.; Dupuis, Alfred A.; Smith, Charles E.; England, Kyle E.

Second Row: Ritenour, Carson G.; Carlson, Arthur M.; Ferrie, John A., Jr.; Lewis, Jack C.; Pratt, Carlton S.; Smith, Kenneth P.; Kelly, Ernest J.; Pruett, John P.

Third Row: Nienartowicz, Alfred J.; Trammell, Ernest J.; Tamm, Albert; Turek, Harry; Fraser, Joseph E.; McMunn, Hugh J.; Bovee, Fred B.; Williams, Leo

COMPANY D



Platoon 2

First Row: (l to r) Pratt, Samuel H.; Pierce, Holt J.; Selvog, Harvey R.; Huey, Lloyd A.; Ayers, Orville T.; Jodon, George L.; Neri, Santo J.

Second Row: Jenkins, Clarence R.; Harvey, Arthur C.; Maloney, John T.; Koerner, Kurt; Volpe, Joseph; Shaver, George W., Jr.; Tennyson, Jack B.; Rohr, Clarence F.; LaRosa, Paul P.; Czarniawski, Arthur W.

Third Row: Corwin, Keith L.; Dickey, Dan, Jr.; Yelovich, Mark A.; Slaughter, J. H.; Monje, LeRoy E.; Fox, George; Hathaway, Charles W.; Rieber, Howard J.; Farve, Henry; Harris, Elmer W.; MacDonald, James H.; Shepherd, Richard L.

Fourth Row: Funaro, Francis J.; Handy, Martin C.; Brown, John C.; Pasko, Stanley A.; Hill, Howard Eugene; Bergen, Roy E.; Robertson, William F.; Hammond, Mark A.; Jensen, Edward V.; Nordman, Billy E.; Stearns, Warren B.; Urban, Vernon W.

COMPANY D



Platoon 3

First Row: (l to r) Sercombe, Norman P.; Webb, Perry Wilburn; Breen, Frederick J.; Werner, Finis A.; Bosler, William A.; Hayes, Donald V.

Second Row: Moore, Keith; Tuggle, Tommie; Hulsey, George C.; Gray, Warren C.; Jorgens, Theman O.; Bahr, Henry J.; Barlund, Ole

Third Row: Ryan, James J.; Schaffer, Philip; Boardley, Edward J.; Ferguson, Thomas C.; Schmidt, Arthur D.; Kookan, John B.; Scott, Joe E.

Fourth Row: Welch, Seth E., Jr.; Wright, Jessie T.; Markham, Nelson R.; Strome, Albert T.; Jones, Joseph R.; Lent, Howard L.

COMPANY D



Platoon 4

First Row: (l to r) Curatolo, Frank; Draheim, William B.; Coates, Robert G.; Tefft, Chester L.; O'Rourke, Clifford B.; Grant, Jesse J.; Wilson, Kenneth C.

Second Row: Ricciardi, Michael; Van Orden, Donald G.; Myatt, Erwin E.; Strzynski, Richard J.; Shoppe, Raymond G.; Buchanan, Raymond S.; Smith, Noah A.; Collins, Robert T.; Switzer, Don W.

Third Row: Lollis, Paul J.; Freitag, Otto A., Jr.; Drake, James A.; Hovey, Willis J.; Sessom, Douglas J.; Calloway, Ben; Salliotte, Richard A.; Mendoza, Joseph B.; Ferris, Albert G.; Tiller, Herschel B.

Fourth Row: Marteness, Velvie G.; Wende, Fred J.; Allen, Hubert A.; Garren, James A., Sr.; Williams, Robert M.; McPherson, William C.; Bull, Robert E.; Bybee, James O.; Matson, John A.; Stout, William T.; Bennett, Edward E.

COMPANY D



Platoon 5

First Row: (l to r) Smith, Leonard K.; Tanner, Robert A.; Triche, Archie C.; Sandstrom, Lawrence W.; Drewniak, Emil S.; Santora, Louis F.; Christian, Roy M.

Second Row: Pelto, Emil E.; Sokoloff, James; Loro, Frank; Clements, Richard F.; Phillips, Ross J.; Ciannello, James; Baldwin, Charles R.; Johnson, William, Jr.

Third Row: Hiney, Charles R.; Murray, Louis E.; Russell, Rowland B.; Scott, John J.; Mitchell, James C.; Woolsey, William C.; Henry, William R.; Sieck, Dean L.

COMPANY D



Platoon 6

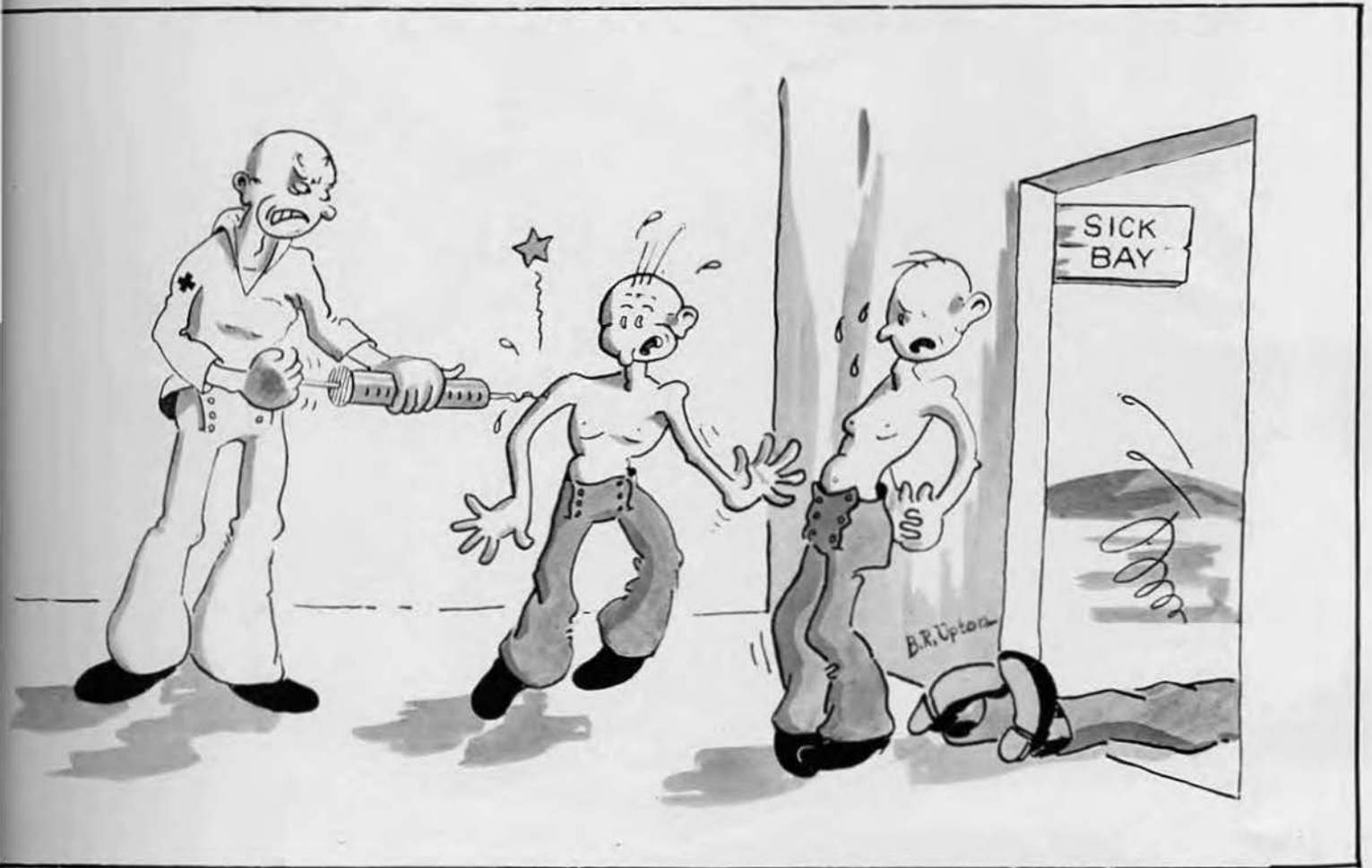
First Row: (l to r) O'Neill, Alfred G.; Price, John G.; Pitchie, George C.; Martz, Lester, L.; Short, Edmund C.; Dubois, Edward J.; Williams, William O.

Second Row: Root, William W.; Cheney, Danforth S.; Howell, Leo F.; Beeker, Samuel P., Jr.; Tribby, Donald G.; Gagnon, Kenneth M.; Gayda, Michael

Third Row: Shipman, Harvey C.; Smith, Alfred G.; Eichelberger, Nelson F.; Cottrell, Edward F.; Schultis, Edwin D.; Regina, Joseph; Hauptmann, Harold; Collier, Harvie K.

Fourth Row: Smith, Robert J.; Moravick, Joseph G.; Smith, Benton; Young, Bertrand J.; Parks, Ralph W.; Shafer, Edwin D.; Johnson, Ronald C.; Howell, Van Wilson

BATTALION HISTORY



Shots

ON FEBRUARY 12, 1943, notices were posted on the bulletin boards at Camp Allen, Virginia, notifying some twenty-one Civil Engineering Corps officers of their assignment to the 91st Construction Battalion. Several organizational meetings were held under the direction of the new skipper, Lt.-Comdr. Louis F. Hewett, and on February 19th this group of officers left for Camp Peary, Virginia to supervise the training of a large group of incoming "boots." Upon arrival at Peary the Roster of officers was augmented by two medical officers, a dental officer and two supply corps officers.

After five strenuous weeks of training these embryo Seabees on the cold, muddy fields of Camp Peary, the 91st officers were sent to B Area to receive the men who were to make up the finished battalion. In keeping with naval custom, these men had received their preliminary training under a different set of officers. Men started arriving in B-6 Area on April 11th and eight days later the battalion complement of 1080 men was completely filled. This conglomerate group of men represented forty-six states and averaged 28 years in age. Like most Seabee battalions, we soon found that we had seasoned construction veterans as well as many sturdy youngsters.

On April 21st, led by the station force band, we marched to the Camp Peary station and



Close Order Drill



Commando Course



Embarkation Leave

boarded a troop train for the overnight trip to Camp Endicott, R. I. We were the first battalion to leave from the new Camp Peary station. The train trip followed the usual pattern—a full measure of singing, guitar-playing and card games with a minimum of sleeping.

Camp Endicott certainly looked like an earthly paradise after the barren mud flats of Camp Peary. Each company had its own barracks, the mess halls were modern and spotless, the recreation facilities were excellent—all in all, it was certainly “nice duty.”

Here, under the stern supervision of Marine Corps instructors we received training in close and extended-order drill, manual of arms, bayonet, hand grenade, commando course toughening and rifle practice at Sun Valley range. Some of us enrolled for courses at special schools for diving, stevedoring, dock construction, advance base construction and allied subjects.

During this period of strenuous training we somehow found time to enjoy the gay social

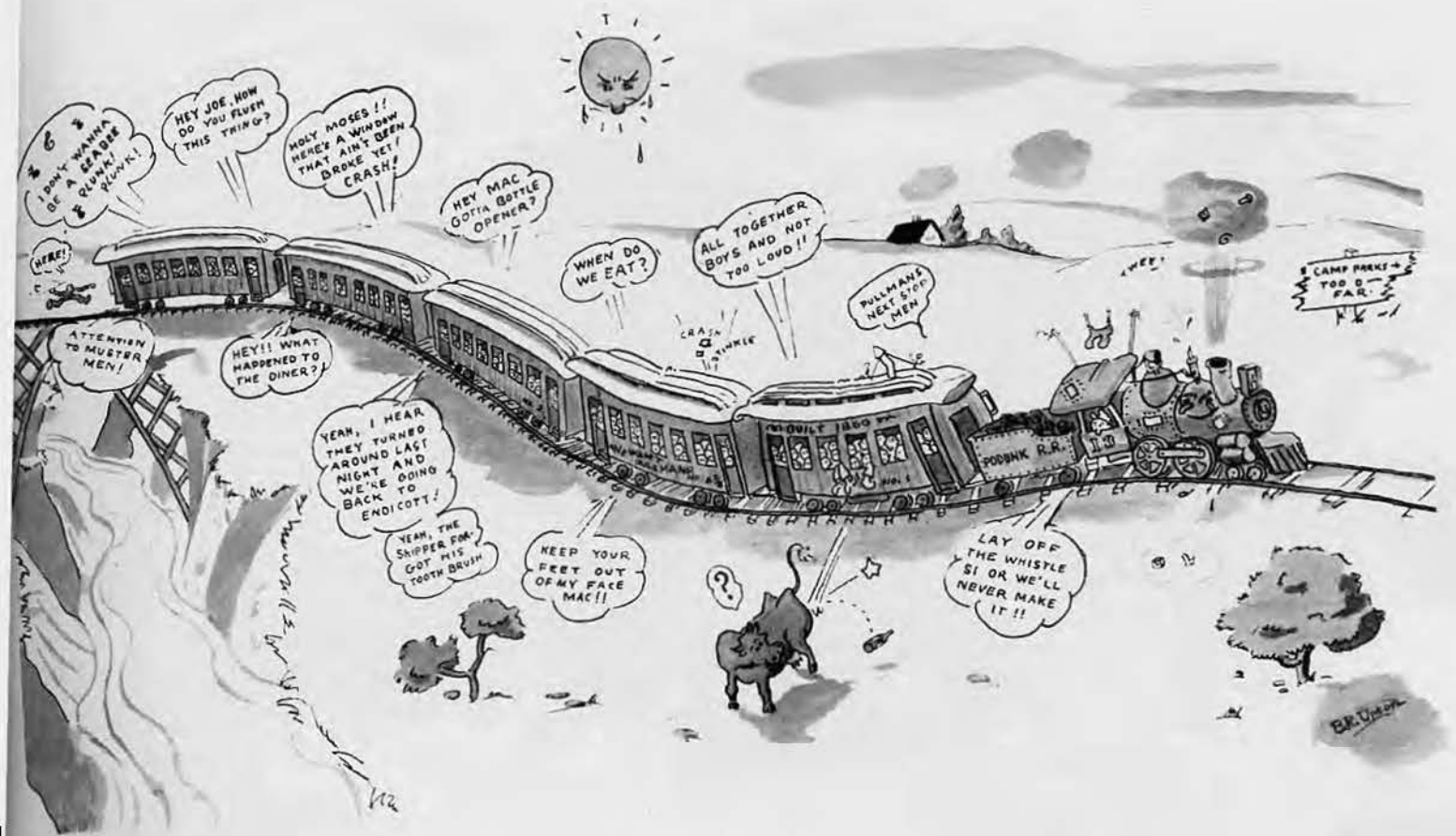


Staterooms

life in nearby Providence, and liberty nights found most of us “ready and waiting,” dressed in our finest. The officers and men had a chance to meet and learn more about each other at Battalion Smokers on May 12th and June 1st. Musical talent was uncovered at these gatherings and entertainers like Ollie Johnson, Lou Danksha, “Big” Thompson and many others were received with wild acclaim. A strong battalion spirit was in the making—a spirit that was to carry us through many discouraging moments in the months to come.

The battalion’s recreation program was starting to function—company softball teams were formed and a swing band was started by Storekeeper Thompson, using instruments purchased with our Welfare Fund.

Upon completion of advanced training, the 91st Battalion received its colors at an elaborate full-dress review on May 22nd, which was witnessed by many of our families and



Pullman De Luxe

friends. We soon realized that our "school-days" were over when we received orders for our 10-day embarkation leave—one last farewell fling before starting out for "Island-X."

On the 15th of June, 1943 we left Camp Endicott, excited at the prospect of seeing the country and making our first venture overseas. We saw the country all right—but we saw it the HARD way! No Pullmans were available so we started out in some aged day coaches with the understanding that Pullman facilities would be available at Buffalo, our first stop. When they failed to put in an appearance at Buffalo, Commander Hewett started 'phoning and wiring Naval officials as well as the railway moguls. Despite these persistent efforts, the coveted Pullmans never materialized so we made the 7-day trip in day coaches.

What a trip! Men slept in every conceivable position—across seats, sitting up with some even on the deck. The summer heat was oppressive and jammed windows were soon either pried open or smashed to let in a little fresh air. The nights were plenty chilly when that cold desert air started streaming in the broken windows. Washing facilities were extremely meager and even drinking water was scarce. Each time the train stopped at a town, we kept a steady stream of civilian messengers running back and forth for beer and food.

Despite all these discomforts we managed to keep up our spirits with songs and impromptu entertainment. Things were really so bad that the situation was *ALMOST* funny.

When we were deprived of our dining cars in Denver, arrangements were made to feed the battalion at Lowry Field, 12 miles away. The airtight trucks we rode in seemed intended for violent cases only, and that trip was far from pleasant, but we soon forgot that when we saw the fine mess hall and had our fill of some very good food. We also wangled showers later at the Railroad YMCA in Denver and felt more like human beings again.



Battle of Camp Parks



Battle of Hollywood

SILVER



Sea Witch

When we finally arrived at Camp Parks, California, after seven long days in transit, most of us slept the clock around to recuperate. This camp proved to be a real haven with excellent living quarters, inside head facilities and a modern mess hall. During our three week stay here we had an opportunity to visit San Francisco, 20 miles away.

We were soon on the move again—this time we headed south to Port Hueneme, a small coastal port some sixty miles north of Hollywood. During our stay here we did some construction work, which consisted of moving some Coast Guard barracks from Oxnard to the shore and erecting stran-steel warehouses for the base public works officer. Our main interest at this camp, though, was in getting in to Hollywood on liberty nights. Seabee wolves were really howlin' in that town!

On August 10th, 1943 the S. S. Nathan Currier departed for the Far East, loaded with the bulk of our construction equipment and carrying a pioneer contingent of four officers and ten enlisted men from the 91st.

Six weeks later, on September 21st, we shouldered our packs and carbines and marched down to the dock with our own military band leading the way. Scuttlebutt was rife! Each man had his own theory as to our final destination—guesses ranged all the way from the Aleutians to New Zealand. Our ship, the U.S.A.T. Sea Witch, was already a South Pacific veteran, having made several voyages to Australia and New Guinea where she had undergone several Jap air attacks.

With our hearts in our throats and our gear on our back and arms, we struggled up a makeshift gangplank, planted an unsteady foot on the slippery steel deck and were herded into steep, dark companionways, finally slipping and sliding into the crowded holds that we were to call home for the following month. We were each assigned a bunk and were directed to toss our gear on said bunk and to crawl in on top of it. This was no mean feat as the bunks were in tiers of five or six high and our gear consisted of rifle, gas mask, field pack, duffle bag, life jacket, and hand bag. We looked at this mountain of luggage with sinking hearts and wondered where we were supposed to sleep. Since the bunks were short and narrow, some Seabee he-men had considerable difficulty keeping various parts of their anatomy out of the passage ways. The mates in the lower bunks had to be constantly on the alert to keep their arms and legs from being used as a ladder by the dwellers in the upper bunks.

When the last perspiring Seabee had struggled aboard the lines were cast loose and the Sea Witch began to back slowly away from the dock. Every man was on deck for the last glimpse of the California shoreline. Despite the veil of secrecy that shrouds all ship movements, a few of the wives were behind the fence to wave farewell to their husbands as the



Feeding the Fishes

Sea Witch slowly pushed her way out into the Pacific. We started out with an escort of two sub-chasers but they soon turned back and left us free to fight the war alone.

As this was the first ocean trip for most of us we weren't long in feeling the effects of the rolling sea. Some of us were merely a little uneasy, others were completely unaffected but a few poor misers made the trip "mostly by rail" and were never able to do justice to those fragrant cabbage dinners that were a specialty of the Sea Witch cuisine.

Those of us who boarded ship expecting a luxury cruise were soon disillusioned by the discovery that life aboard a troop transport is an endless series of boat drills, general quarters and interminable chow lines interspersed with a steady stream of special orders coming out of the public address system. Just as you'd draw a good hand and prepare to make a "killing" the P.A. system would cut in with "Now hear this, B-3 compartment cleaning detail lay down to your quarters on the double."



Polywog Day

Our voyage soon settled down to a monotonous routine which was broken to some extent by a recreation program instituted by the ship's chaplain. The 91st furnished the major part of the entertainment with Ollie Johnson, Lou Danksha and "Big" Thompson leading the musical end of it while Swede Hanson managed some boxing contests. Red Lovell and Chief Gallagher were great vocal favorites along with Fred Haubert, the squeeze-box maniac and the string band trio singing "Wait for Me, Mary."

In keeping with an ancient tradition of the sea, boisterous initiation ceremonies were held as the good ship Sea Witch crossed the equator. The 91st was well represented in this traditional dunking and many well-known chiefs and officers were forced to swallow repulsive looking concoctions while suffering various indignities at the hands of the ship's crew.

After 21 days on the open ocean we finally sighted land on October 11th at a point near the southern entrance to the Great Barrier Reef off the east coast of Australia. Blackout regu-



Exercising Sea Legs

lations were partially lifted as we cruised along northward to Townsville, where we lay at anchor for two days before resuming our travels. On Friday evening, October 16th, we eased our way through the winding ship channel in Cairns harbor and finally docked at this small port. Liberty was granted this same night to all hands and the mad rush was on. After nearly four weeks of shipboard life, Cairns seemed like an oasis. The Red Cross Service Club served excellent food, provided hot showers, stationery, cable blanks and above all, gave us a comfortable place to meet our friends. One of the great sports was trading with the Chinese merchants of the town and the mates soon learned the Australian financial system. For a comparative small sum a good steak, salad and dessert could be had, while fresh milk was very plentiful.

Two days later we were once more on our way northward, this time as a part of a small convoy heading for the dark and forbidding island of New Guinea. The war seemed closer to



Home in New Guinea

us now on the trip through the Coral Sea with destroyers ranging far and wide while our own gun crews were standing by, ready for action at all times.

Finally on the 21st of October, the *Sea Witch* dropped anchor off the coast of New Guinea and we had arrived at Milne Bay, the site of our first overseas base. As seen from aboard ship, the Papuan jungle looked harmless enough: in fact the neat rows of cocoanut palms along the white beaches looked like something out of a travel folder. As we disembarked and started setting up our camp we soon discovered that not only was it hard work carving a camp site out of the dense mass of vines, creepers, and intertwining trees, but that such work was to be further complicated by the broiling sun, sudden drenching downpours and the presence of wild boars, pythons, malarial mosquitoes, lizards and a wide variety of crawling insects.

Somehow or other we managed to construct a decent camp in the swampy area allotted us and before many weeks had gone by everyone had a dry place to sleep in, our shops and



Ladava Mission

camp administration buildings were set up and we were all hard at work on the various construction projects.

At this base we were a part of the Third Construction Brigade, under the command of Captain W. M. Angus and we were to remain with him during practically all of our overseas construction duty. We were later assigned to the 12th Construction Regiment, commanded by Comdr. Charles M. Herd. Upon Comdr. Herd's transfer to the 19th Regiment, he was succeeded by Comdr. E. M. Kelly.

Our first Thanksgiving overseas found the 91st battalion playing host to a vast horde of soldiers, marines and Aussies who had evidently "gotten the word" on our Turkey Day menu. Our hard-pressed cooks served over two thousand turkey dinners that day from a galley originally meant to serve five hundred men.

On Christmas Eve a nearby Aussie ack-ack unit put on a program at the 91st theatre—a series of skits and songs which brought down the house and helped us all forget our homesickness.

As the weeks drifted by most of us became acclimated to the peculiar moist heat and the



A Wet Reception

rough living conditions; complexions took on a mahogany hue and the long hours of physical labor soon put us in fighting trim. As the naval base started to grow, recreational facilities improved—movies and stage shows were of high quality while our own sports program was well under way.

Along about April 1st the skies started to cloud over and the sun disappeared for a period of several months. The rainy season set in and quickly turned the black soil into a sticky quagmire. Our camp practically vanished one weekend when our engineers recorded over twenty-five inches of rain in forty-eight hours! This rainy season was a particularly trying time for all hands; clothes were always damp and muddy, everything turned moldy—shoes, bed clothes, photographs—and the ever-present fungus diseases were especially active during this period.

During the latter part of May, C Company was given orders to proceed to Madang, a point several hundred miles up the new Guinea coast where an amphibious repair base was needed in a hurry. The cream of the battalion equipment was loaded on an LST, goodbyes were waved, whistles were tooted but the ship failed to move. After two days of shoving and tugging the ship finally slid off the beach into deep water and the boys were on their way. Arriving at a completely uninhabited spot a rough camp was quickly set up and construction was started on the base. Aussie infantry patrols were still hunting Japs in the immediate vicinity and according to CWO Carragher, the chow hall MAA's had difficulty in keeping the yellow rascals out of the 91st chow line. Under the direction of Lt. Comdr. Johnson, the construction work proceeded rapidly and in October this group of souvenir-laden veterans



“Don’t put him in the soup”

rejoined the battalion, bringing with them a letter of commendation from the Service Force of the Seventh Fleet.

Shortly after June 1st another detachment left the battalion. This time B Company sallied forth, under the direction of Lt. Beall, to dismantle the naval facilities at Palm Island, a base some fifty miles off the northeast coast of Australia. Dismantling and crating of the buildings and equipment proved to be a man-sized operation; furniture, hospital supplies, radio and radar equipment, drill presses, lathes, aircraft engines, wing sections, tanks, quonsets, roofing, arms and ammunition, Mardsden material—all this had to be carefully packed for re-shipment. For recreation the men had good movies, basketball, and deep sea fishing.

After this job was completed on August 30th, the entire company journeyed by ship and rail to Brisbane where a 10-day leave was granted all hands. Upon completion of this leave the boys spent the next four months on various construction jobs at Camp Seabee and also helped to repair and convert the USS Wright into the flagship of the Service Force. On Christmas Day they boarded ship to rejoin the battalion and after an interrupted voyage of several weeks, finally came ashore on our Philippine island where they are still known to this day as our “Brisbane commandos.”

On July 9th the remaining companies of the battalion boarded the SS Michael Casey for



Letters from Home

a trip to Finschhafen, another New Guinea base. Upon arrival we were assigned a camp area on the site of an abandoned Seabee camp. Despite heavy rains we soon had a ship-shape camp in operation and were hard at work on our construction assignments which consisted mainly of receiving barracks and a PT repair base.

After the first wind and rain storms we soon discovered that our camp was in a very hazardous area. The huge tropical trees looked as though they were firmly rooted but due to a sub soil of hard coral most of them had a very shallow root system and were easily toppled over. Despite concentrated clearing operations we suffered several serious casualties from falling trees; these reached a climax when Lou Danksha was killed and "Ollie" Johnson received serious injuries during one storm.

During our stay at this base, our battalion basketball and softball teams were very active and many platoon and company teams were formed. Volley ball, handball and horseshoe



Looks Like Work

courts were in constant use during our leisure hours. A highly successful field day was held in conjunction with the 650th Engineer Topographic Battalion and sporting events such as this did much to keep up our morale and overcome the monotony of the tropical existence.

PHILIPPINES

During the second week of December, 1944, we loaded our equipment and supplies on six LST's and embarked for the Philippines. Christmas Day found us at the most hazardous point of our voyage but despite the constant threat of enemy planes all around us we arrived undamaged, and after a short delay, commenced unloading operations on Manicani Island. Like most of the coral islands of the South Pacific this one proved to be completely surrounded by a shallow coral reef which made unloading operations extremely difficult. There were no docks or roads of any kind on the island which was inhabited by about eight hun-

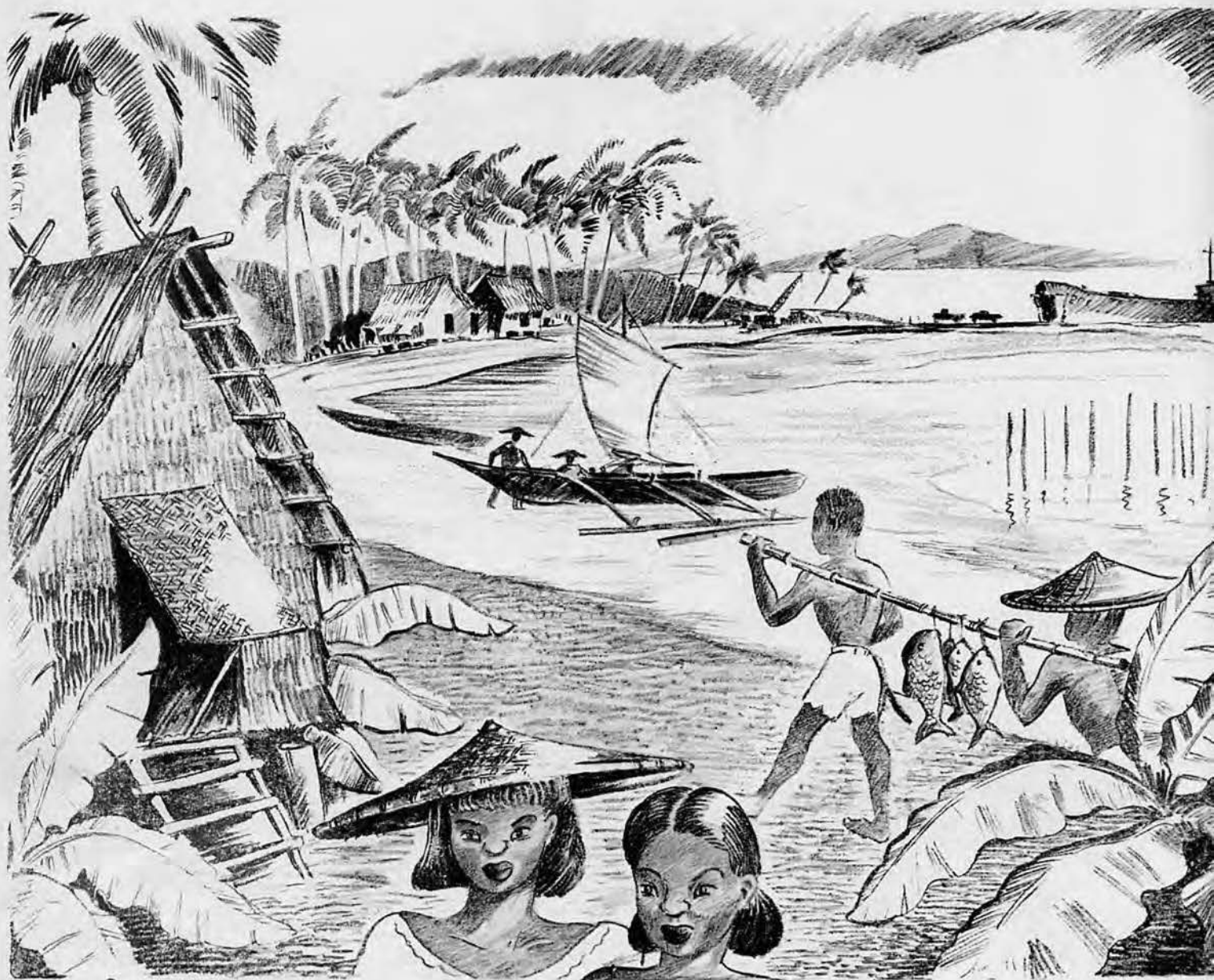


The Swimming Hole

dred Filipinos. To further complicate matters it was rumored that there were some Japs hiding out in the hills so that a complete perimeter guard had to be thrown around the camp. This theory was exploded ten days later when an Army infantry patrol made a thorough search of the island.

In keeping with an old 91st tradition it rained nearly every day during the first month on the island. Clearing and roadbuilding operations went ahead nevertheless and by the time decent weather set in our permanent camp was completed and we were engaged in the construction of the naval facilities.

On this tiny isolated island recreation and entertainment were an absolute necessity for morale purposes so before long our athletic program was in full swing, our New Guinea

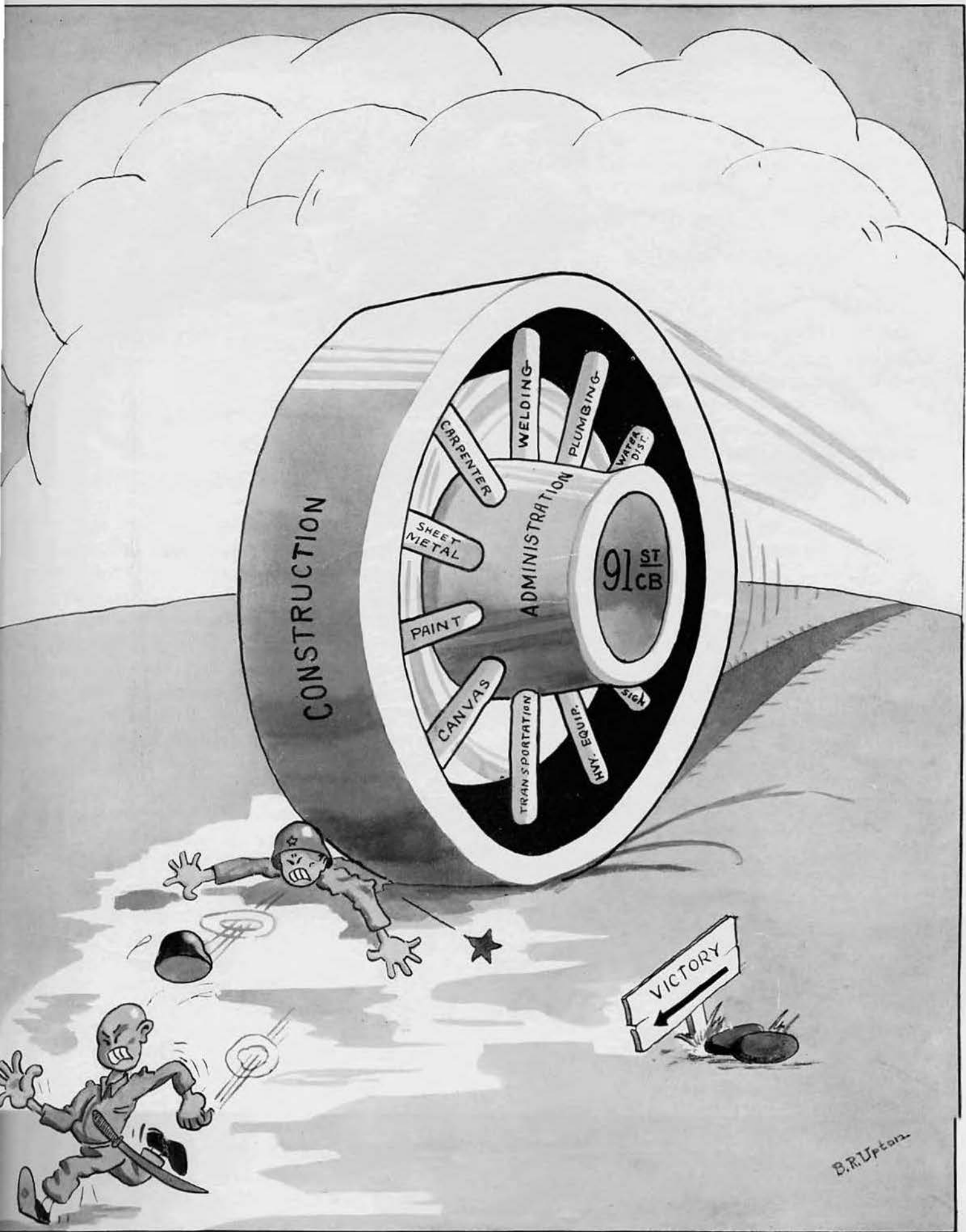


Our Manicani Home

basketball champs were continuing their winning ways while our new Lou Danksha Memorial Theatre was featuring movies, USO shows and amateur contests. Our softball team won the island championship, then defeated an all star picked team to prove themselves real champs.

Here in the Philippines as this article is being written, the 91st battalion is still hard at work building docks, warehouses and barracks under the same tropical sun. The battalion spirit is still unbroken though the flesh is beginning to weaken a bit after almost two years of construction work in the tropics.

We're all anxious to finish our job and return home for that hard-earned 30-day leave in the states.



B.R. Upton

AT this point in our book it might be in order to present a brief over-all description of the inner workings of the battalion. The structure of the battalion is quite similar to that of a private contracting firm back home except for the fact that we are organized and trained as military men and sent out to live, work and fight under the strict discipline of the Navy.

Perhaps we can better visualize this organization if we picture the battalion as a huge rolling wheel.

The hub of this wheel consists of the Officer in Charge, the Executive Officer, the staff officers and the enlisted men who work in the various overhead departments. About a fifth of the battalion personnel come into this category as yeomen, draftsmen, medical corpsmen, guards and masters-at-arms, cooks, kitchen police, etc. The "hub" originates the construction plans, schedules the work, allocates personnel and procures all materials for the jobs.

The spokes of the wheel consist of the various mechanical and repair shops; these are comparable to the many sub-contractors you'd normally find on a civilian construction job. As soon as blueprints are available for a new project, they are closely scanned by the heads of the various shops, each eager to get started prefabricating or planning his part in the construction scheme. About a quarter of our men are engaged in this section, working as plumbers, electricians, shop carpenters,



By pulling together like this . . .

pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, painters, welders, blacksmiths, mechanics, etc.

Finally, the rim of the wheel is the force engaged in the actual construction work. Here we find more than half of our men busily sweating away as carpenters, linemen, riggers, pile driver men, blasters, equipment operators, concrete workers, etc. These men work under the direction of their particular project officer, who is directly responsible for the progress and quality of the work under his charge. This man parcels out the work among his chief petty officers and their crews, coordinates the work of the subcontractors and sees to it that all materials arrive promptly as needed so that the job will proceed smoothly.

The excellent lubricant that keeps this battalion wheel rolling along at a merry clip is COOPERATION. A spirit of friendly harmony has prevailed among the men that has made possible an easy interchange of ideas, tools and services. Under the guidance of the Operations Officer, men and equipment has been moved from job to job, whenever needed, with a minimum of friction. The Officer in Charge has looked to his staff members for advice in the proper administration of the battalion and has invariably received their wholehearted support. Without this healthy spirit our battalion would have been split into small warring factions—with it, we've operated as a closely-knit team and achieved real results.



We accomplished these results!

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

The primary duty of the Personnel Office is to keep up-to-date and in good order the service records of all enlisted personnel. When the battalion arrived at Camp Endicott it received the service jackets of all men assigned to it and then the big job of the Personnel Department began. Work was started immediately to record in the service jackets the fact that the 91st personnel were now attached to the battalion. This together with preparing liberty cards, muster cards, muster lists, completing family allowances, M.A.Q., and insurance applications, and getting other matters pertaining to enlisted personnel in shape for the battalion to operate, comprised most of the work of the yeoman staff. Preparation of leave papers for 800 men who took embarkation leave on June 2nd was the last big job of the yeoman staff while at Camp Endicott. Immediately upon arrival at Camp Parks the Personnel Office was again swamped with work preparing leave papers for the West Coast boys who did not take embarkation leave at Camp Endicott. At Port Hueneme, final departmental organizational details were completed and the Personnel Department most nearly reached the ideal of what a good ship's office should be.

The duties least known to the construction men in the field are the vast number of monthly reports on all battalion activities prepared by the yeomen under the direction of the Personnel Officer and the Executive Officer. Re-rates among enlisted personnel have been numerous which has entailed a great deal of work on the part of the yeomen.

Not to be overlooked in importance to the battalion is the work done by the yeomen of the Labor Office. Under the direction of Lt. Ralph A. Takacs, all enlisted men were interviewed and classified. Numerous card files were prepared as a result of these interviews.



Top—The staff of the Personnel office at our last base in New Guinea, Golightly, Manley, Longine, Ryman, F. Brown, W. Brown, Parten

Center—The Administration Building houses the O.O.D., Personnel, Labor offices, the Drafting Department and the offices of the executive and commanding officers.

Left—Labor Coordinator Grab and his staff. Longine, Brown and Wogan.



Daily reports of labor assignments by this office furnished the Officer-in-Charge with necessary information for making shifts of personnel from project to project according to priorities of the jobs.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

The medical department, like the officer personnel was assembled before the rest of the battalion was formed. Doctors and hospital corpsmen were drawn from Naval activities all over the States and ordered to Camp Peary for duty with the battalion.

The duties of the medical department personnel have been many and varied since coming to the Southwest Pacific—ranging from field sanitation to major surgery. Corpsmen and doctors have been ordered on detached duty with companies into areas highly infested with malaria, dengue, and other tropical diseases and have brought the personnel under care through with a low incidence of disease—a tribute to modern medicine and the skill of the medical officers.

Since landing in the Philippines the 91st sickbay has acted as center of medical activity on the Island, handling all casualties and emergencies that arose among personnel of the Army, Navy, and Seabees as well as civilians.

A malaria control unit was organized and operated under the supervision of the senior medical officer, Lt. Comdr. Jack Hammond. The efficiency of the unit has been proven by the low incidence of mosquito-borne diseases.

For the health and comfort of the battalion, doctors and corpsmen had to rely on their own ingenuity and that of the Seabees, to overcome obstacles that work in the field presents, and to improvise sorely needed equipment unavailable in the islands. With full cooperation from Seabee personnel and extra effort of the medical department, sick days have been held to a minimum.



Top—Doctor Hammond busily engaged in his operating room

Center—Pharmacy

Doctor Stone, our hardworking dentist, really looks grim in this photo.



The Natives lend a helping hand



These three photos show malaria control drainage projects. These New Guinea natives were better known as the "Black Seabees".



CHAPLAIN'S DEPARTMENT



Chaplain Boyle is an excellent listener.

The importance of religion has always been appreciated by the Navy. Both Naval regulations and traditions insist upon its observance.

To this end, volunteer clergymen have been commissioned as chaplains to minister to the spiritual needs of men of various religious beliefs and convictions. Chaplains, however, not only conduct Divine Services and give spiritual consolation, but also direct men in their personal and domestic difficulties, sympathize with their problems and contact the proper welfare agencies to obtain for them financial and other vital assistance. To this end also they frequently supervise athletic activities and arrange other forms of recreation for the health and relaxation of body and soul.

Consequently the chaplain is esteemed as a friend and confidant of the men—the link between the enlisted men and those in command. The men can approach the “Padre” without fear or restraint, and he in turn can submit their difficulties to the proper authorities. By his prudent advice he can heal many misunderstandings to the satisfaction of all—men and officers, and thus forward peace and harmony in a battalion.

The chaplain is not only a clergyman, but a clergyman in the uniform of the United States Navy. Besides helping the individual he also forwards the interests of the organization he represents. Discouragement, worry and unhappiness sap the fighting spirit of a man. By destroying these obstacles a chaplain instills a spirit of contentment and courage so vital in the attainment of military efficiency.

The history of the 91st Naval Construction Battalion shows a tremendous amount of assistance rendered the men through the American Red Cross, Navy Relief and, above all, the local Welfare funds—all under the care and supervision of the chaplain's department.

The regard for religion is manifested in the chapels erected by the 91st in New Guinea and the Philippines, served by Chaplains R. S. Sassaman, A. H. Hopper, and R. J. Boyle. Services are conducted weekly for Protestant, Catholic and Jewish personnel in a chapel second to none in the Pacific for its beauty and prayerful atmosphere.

The 91st Battalion has proven faithful to the Navy tradition in regard to the importance of religion and the position of the chaplain in its organization.



An overflow attendance at our Philippine chapel.



Interior view of our Philippine chapel

"Tropical Topics" staff members:
Bierman, Kondayan, Kramer, Knoll



Two views of our Philippine library



SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

It was on January 17th, 1943, at Camp Peary, Virginia, that a group of storekeepers were interviewed for the purpose of forming the nucleus of the 91st Naval Construction Battalion Supply Department. Three long months of schooling in Naval Supply and Disbursing procedure followed before they were officially accepted by the Battalion Supply Officer. From that day on, these storekeepers have been kept busy caring for the needs of the battalion.

The Supply Department controls the operation of many vital battalion functions. The personnel of the supply office handles the necessary paper work and plans the anticipated needs of the construction forces. The disbursing office acts as banker and financial adviser while the commissary department is primarily concerned with providing the finest food available at all times. From the efficient operation of the ship's store comes the profits which provide the battalion with free laundry, barber, tailor and cobbler services. Last, but not least, is the supply warehouse and storage yard where all construction material, G. I. clothing and GSK material is stored and issued.

We are all aware of the tremendous amount of construction work accomplished by the battalion while overseas. With this in mind we can readily appreciate the enormous tonnage of construction materials procured and transported to complete these projects. Much credit is due the Supply Department for a job well done.



Top—Supply office and warehouse.

Center—Unloading construction material in the Philippines.

Right—Part of the “coke” line on a hot afternoon.





"Nick the Barber"



Seabee laundry managers and a portion of the Filipino staff



Filipino workers operating our homemade washing machine

DISBURSING DEPARTMENT

The disbursing department of the battalion acts in the capacity of your banker while you are in the Navy. Besides handling pay accounts, the department is in a position to give advice concerning family allowance benefits, insurance, war bonds, income tax and has even played Dorothy Dix in matters of marital interest. Anything that affects your pocketbook is of vital interest to this department as it is the duty of every disbursing officer and his staff to see that all men attached to the unit are properly advised in all money matters.

Disbursing officers are personally responsible to the government for each disbursement of funds and, as they handle enormous sums of money during the course of a year, it is necessary to use only men who are honest, accurate and have a thorough knowledge of Navy accounting. The disbursing staff has quite an enviable record to date when you consider that not one error has been made in a battalion pay line, several of which have totaled over \$90,000.

When the battalion arrived in the Philippines, this department took on the additional job of handling all civilian labor. Since most of the farm products in the area had been seized by the Japs, food was a major problem. Sufficient quantities of rice and salmon were procured, and a civilian store was organized to insure equal distribution. Later a market place was set up where the people could buy local fish and root foods at ceiling prices.

During the course of construction many homes and farms had to be destroyed, but new homes were quickly built for these people and all crops were paid for.

During our stay on the island we have had as high as 375 native Filipinos on the battalion payroll. They have proved to be excellent loggers, stevedores, carpenters and construction laborers while many have been employed in the laundry, galley and MAA force.



Top—The Disbursing Officer and his assistant leaving for the pay line.

Center—A busy afternoon at the native store; fish and rice were the most popular commodities.

Right—Housing units for dispossessed Filipino families, built by native carpenters under 91st supervision.

DRAFTING AND SURVEYING

Right—Bilyeu, Bailey and O'Rourke turn ideas into drawings for the construction crews to carry out.

Below—The surveying crew at the start of a busy day.

First row: Keller, Bogner, Knight

Second row: Legmann, Roehm, Webber, Wagner, Aiken



Our drafting department is comprised of four skilled engineering draftsmen who work directly under the Officer in Charge in preparing plans for proposed construction.

Despite the fact that stock plans are usually available either from BuDocks or the construction brigades, this department has either designed its own construction layouts or modified the standard drawings to fit the needs of the specific job. Many 91st-designed plans have been adopted by the brigades for the use of other battalions.

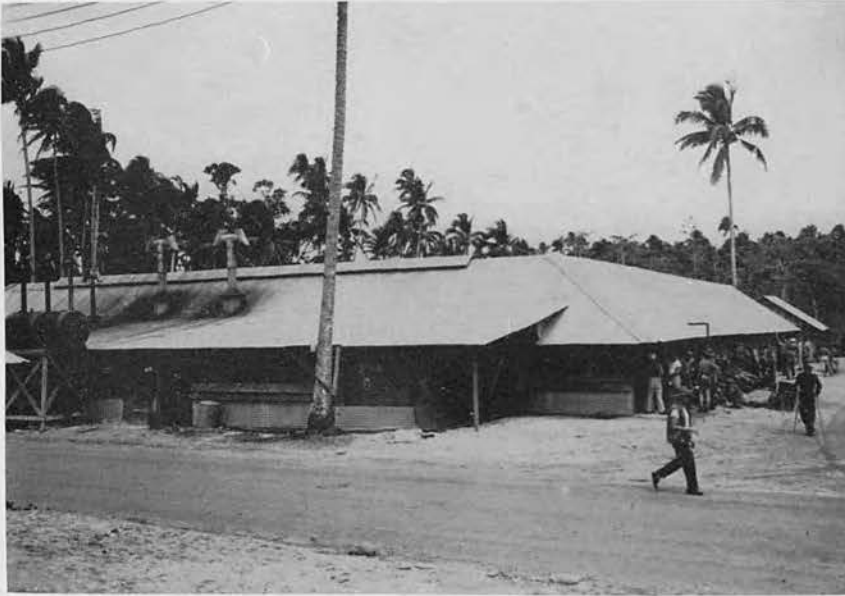
In addition to the general construction plan these men also furnish electrical and plumbing layouts when needed. On sunny days they manage to make up enough blueprints to supply the men in the field.

Turning to our survey crews, these men are busy long before actual construction begins. Where heavy jungle growth obscures the construction site, the survey parties generally use a bulldozer to open up boundary lines for the guidance of the clearing crews. As the land is cleared, grade stakes are set and, as quickly as a section reaches its finished grade, the actual building corners are run in and construction commences.

Odd jobs have a habit of popping up at regular intervals. Such chores as setting markers for a measured mile along the beach, taking soundings for waterfront construction or setting targets for demolition crews blasting out ship channels all help to keep survey life from becoming too monotonous. In New Guinea the crews ran several miles of road traverse through swampland where they spent most of their time hacking brush, wading rivers, and slapping mosquitoes.

Both survey and drafting departments deserve battalion recognition for their unceasing efforts.

Laying out a base line



91st Galley and Mess Hall
in the Philippines



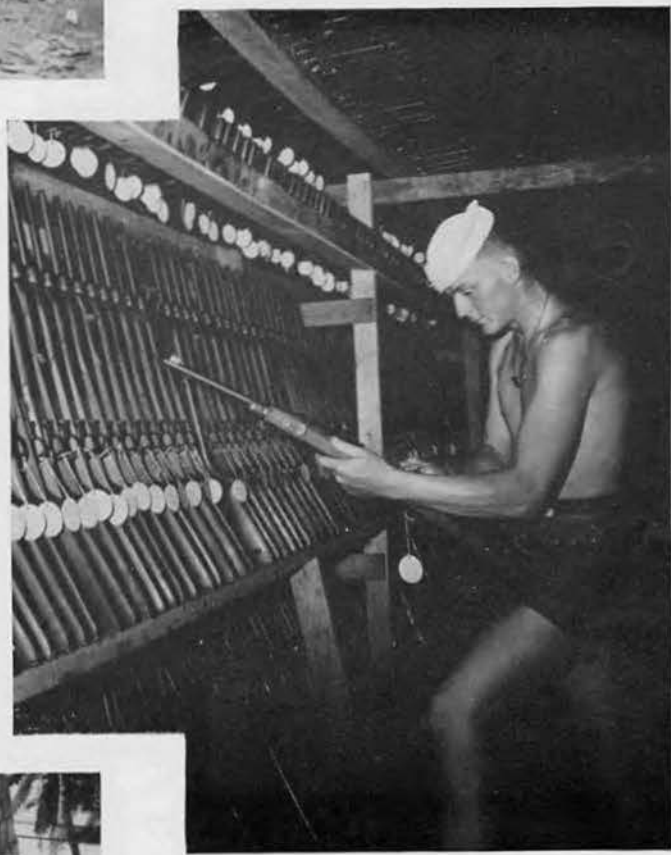
Fresh bread, biscuits and cake in the
making. The bakers are: Janis, Eber-
hardt, Morello, Lay and Kiefer



Sunday must be coming . . .
O'Keefe, Butler, Sokol, Evans and Sim-
merman in the usual order.



Chief "Jack" Towey, our popular postmaster, with his New Guinea staff:
 1st row: LaChapelle, Wagner, Fagert
 2nd row: Towey, Lowman, Lewis, Smith, Smalley, Farnum, Parsons



Two views of our battalion armory with Kent and Lyons in action.





MAA FORCE AND GUARD UNIT

In 1943, before the battalion left for overseas, a guard unit and MAA force were formed under the Provost Marshall's supervision. Though first organized as two separate units, upon arrival in the Philippines they were combined into a single organization under the direction of Chief Campbell.

Wryly nicknamed "The Gestapo" by the battalion wits, the duties of the MAAs consist mainly of enforcing the rules of discipline laid down by Navy regulations, augmented by special orders from the Skipper. In addition to these more-or-less unpleasant duties they are charged with supervision of the mess hall and cleanliness of the camp; this group is largely responsible for the trim appearance of our present home in the Philippines. Our well-managed mess hall has proved a morale booster and is essential for the health and fitness of all hands.

The duties of the guard force are closely allied with those of the MAA unit. Their primary concern is for the protection of the camp from fire, theft, air raids and disorderly conduct. The guard unit consists of twenty-four sentries who are divided into three shifts and posted at strategic points throughout the area in order that the camp may be secured at all times. They merit a "well-done" for their efforts.

The Navy is governed by rules and regulations in order that its members can live together without friction and operate as an effective organization. To enforce these rules requires not only courage but wisdom and tact. The men who carry out this work deserve plenty of credit for performing a difficult and thankless task.



Top—Gestapo Headquarters

Center—Chief H. J. Campbell and his Master-at-Arms staff:

1st row: Lennon, Stanek, Richardson

2nd row: Sims, Eccleston, Campbell, Hopkins

Right—These men guarded supplies and equipment in New Guinea:

1st row: Moberly, Johns, McIntyre, Blevins, Yates, Tucker, Gilleland, Fitzgerald, Lachendro, Hines, Rafferty, Pasquale, Allen

2nd row: Chief Brogden, Jones, Sims, Witkopp, Rodriguez, Hamilton, Rygeleski, Lewis, Ford, Wells, Dougarian, Wright, Hopkins, Richardson, Thomas





It's a rare occasion when our roving photographer finds himself in front of the camera . . . Lou Banzen in his workshop



This Philippine sawmill turned out over a million board-feet of fine hardwood boards in less than three months . . .



This mahogany will never reach a furniture factory . . .



A familiar sight to all 91st men—Jack Guard, our venerable Officer of the Day, starts a messenger on his way.

MAINTENANCE AND EQUIPMENT SHOPS



General view of equipment repair shops



Under the able direction of CWO Graham our battalion maintenance shops have done excellent work in keeping our equipment in operation. These shops throb with activity far into the night as the skilled craftsmen within combine their efforts to keep our machinery in running order.

If these busy hives were suddenly shut down most of our construction work would follow suit in short order. Our trucks, tractors, cranes, jeeps, barges, and generators would quickly come to a halt through lack of fuel, repairs, tires or lubrication. Without the services of our welders all pipe line work would soon stop, plumbing crews would be stymied, while the dock crews would be screaming for pilot points and mooring bits. Bolts and drift pins would cease to flow from Ole Barlund's home-made bolt-threading device causing further anguish among the dock workers. With the rigging loft closed the stevedores and loggers would be hard put to replace broken "chokers." In naval parlance, the situation could be accurately described as "snafu."

However, there is little reason to fear that such a confused situation would ever arise. Under the canny eye of the afore-mentioned Chief Warrant and his vigilant staff of Chief Petty Officers things will no doubt continue to hum as long as the 91st Seabees are in the building business.



Battalion "filling station" and grease racks

Flats fixed at all times
by Shaver and his staff



Frank Thompson gives
his assistants, Yelovich
and Savoris, a few rig-
ging pointers.



These men were experts
at matching our tools and equipment

MECHANICAL SHOPS

C.W.O. BROWN
In Charge

Right—This thatch covered building houses all of the mechanical shops

Below — Goett, Williams, Beggs and Short—a representative group of our expert plumbers



In the battalion structure there are numerous shops, the functions of which are very important on base construction.

Our pipefitting department has installed many miles of underground water and sewer lines, as well as many fresh and salt water pumping stations.

The plumbing department has installed all galley fixtures, boilers, steam and water lines. They have equipped enough sanitary heads to take care of an average small city.

Our carpenter and cabinet shop has been allotted a large share of work; it has manufactured many hundreds of various type doors, cabinets, chairs and desks, including all kinds of office furniture.

The sheetmetal shop was a real bee-hive since most all of this type of work had to be pre-fabricated here on the base. Their work includes steam tables, wash tables, ventilators, stacks, latrine troughs, urinals and many other miscellaneous articles.

Our paint shop with the aid of two compressors and spray guns has turned out a huge quantity of work, and have also had a large amount of finish work on cabinets, chairs, and office furniture. It is to this department's credit that our equipment is kept in good appearance with an occasional fresh paint job.

Our canvas shop and sign shop have also been kept busy supplying their products to the construction forces.

Cox, Reynolds, Duby and Dawson listen intently while Skeens explains the latest project



Pitchie, Gagnon, Peterson and Regina discuss a fine point.



Cullen and McGarvey were kept busy turning out jeep tops and extra sea bags.



The signs that are so much in evidence in all of these pictures are the product of York, Zabala, and Wollock, Inc.



Beautification and rust prevention tasks were turned over to the capable hands of Smith, Kneeland and Martz.



ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

C.W.O. SIMKONIS
In Charge



Left—Saleski and Shultis test a portable welding machine.

Below—These coconut palms make excellent telephone poles with Bingman up

One of the most vital cogs in our battalion machinery, our hard-working electrical department really swings into action in a hurry when we "hit the beach" in a new location.

Portable generators are hastily rigged up to facilitate night unloading operations while the linemen are stringing temporary lights for storage dumps along the beach. The "reefer" men speedily place in operation gas-driven refrigerators to preserve our carefully-hoarded stocks of fresh meat and vegetables.

When a more permanent camp site has been decided upon this department makes a careful study of the proposed layout to determine the most feasible locations for generator stations, power lines, communication buildings, and repair shops.

At the construction site, power must be supplied to operate electrically driven saws and drills and for floodlighting night operations. As the construction proceeds generator stations are established, power lines are run in and permanent electrical facilities are installed in the newly-built structures.

During our two years overseas in the moisture-soaked tropics the department has waged constant warfare against corrosion and every



individual mechanism has had to be carefully cleaned and oiled at frequent intervals. Due to a never-ending shortage of critical items many vital replacement parts have had to be improvised from scrap materials.

Despite the above handicaps the boys have persevered in true Seabee style. Many of our construction projects such as hospitals, radio stations and repair shops have called for much intricate electrical work but on these, as well as the other jobs, the finished product has shown a high quality of planning and workmanship.

Those pineapples made the bully-beef taste better.

Left to right: Rosko, Carroll, Young





This is not a crap game—merely Chief Schonder instructing his “reefer” crew, Landon, McGuire, Root, Smith, Wert, Lewis.



Left—We’re not quite sure what the man on top is doing but it makes a nice picture.

Below—Switchboard operators—Philippine style
Seated: Howell and O’Reilly
Standing: Pierce, Bonesteel, Scott, Towley, Servant



WATER PURIFICATION DEPARTMENT

The primary purpose of the water purification department is to produce water that is safe for human consumption. Since many pathogenic organisms such as typhoid, cholera, and amoebic dysentery are found in water the Medical Department has worked in close cooperation with us. They have run tests at regular intervals to assure us that our treatment is effective. In addition, all color, visible dirt, tastes, and odors should be removed.

Our department is proud of its record of duty and accomplishments of purpose. We are also happy to state that no member of our battalion or other units for which we have treated water have suffered any illness due to improperly treated water.

In addition to procurement and treatment of water for our own use, we have set up and supervised water plants for other units. At present our battalion is using an average of 90,000 gallons per day. Salt water is used for our flush type heads. In the past our only source of water supply came from the well adjacent to the water plant. At present, however, and in the future, additional water will be supplied by the new water supply dam located west of the camp area. All water supply and installations have been constructed under the supervision of Chief Warrant Officer E. L. Brown and his able shipfitters. The new dam will eventually supply water to the majority of units on this base.

As a result of coordination and personal efficiency, the personnel change-over has been slight in this department. Of the original nine men trained for this work six remain.



Top—Chief Johnston and assistants keep those tanks full.

Center—This dam proved to be the main source of water supply for the entire base.

Right—Fire Chief Villano and his ever-ready crew
Shelton and Maxwell on the truck
Worfe and Harthorne below



91ST
CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION

CAMP AREA
Island X - Philippines



Scorpion Club

*O. in C. - Sr. Officer's
Quarters*

B.O.Q.

C - Company

A - Company

*Power
Plant*

*Galley-
Mess*

*L
Headqu*



Theatre

C.P.O. Quarters

*Ships Service
Post Office-Etc.*

Sick Bay

Library-Rec.

Quarters Co.

Water Plant

B. & T. Companies

*Disbursing-
Photo Lab.*

Heavy Equipment



Chapel

C.P.O. Mess

*O.in C.-Exec.
Engineering
Personnel*

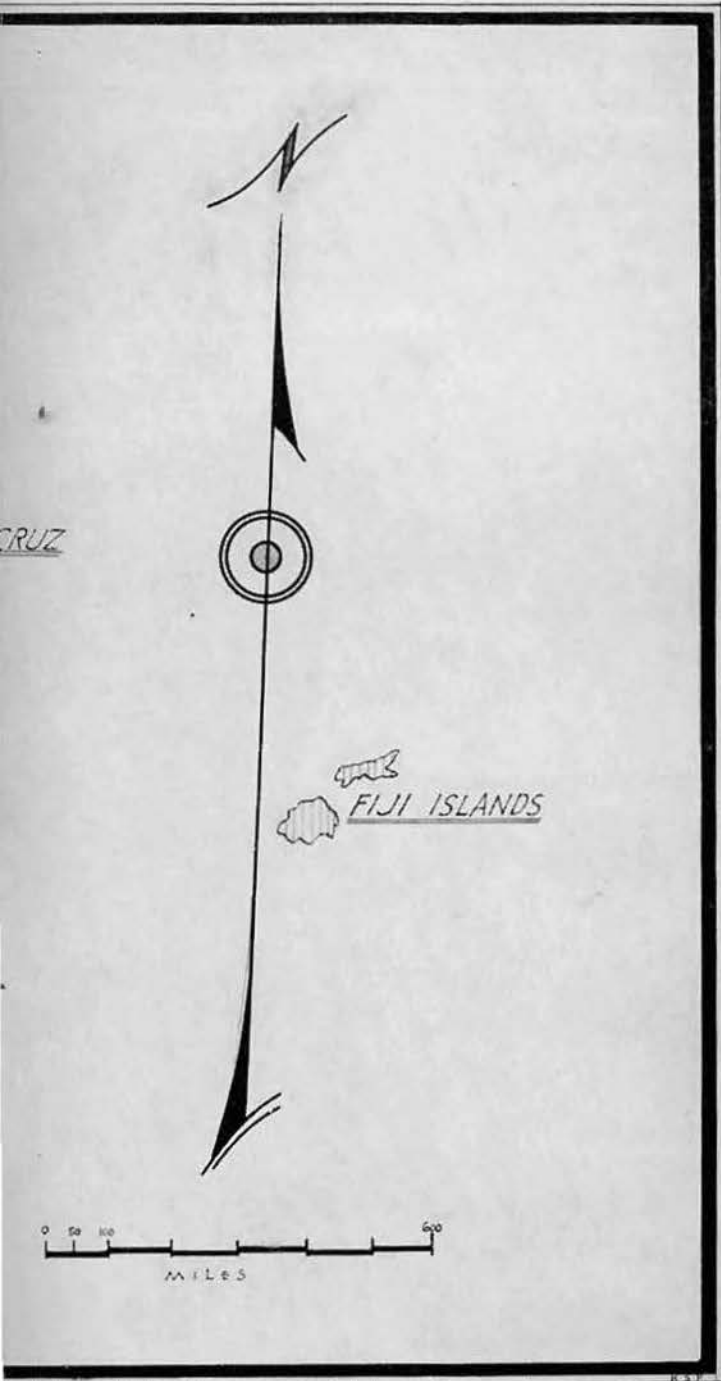
Shops

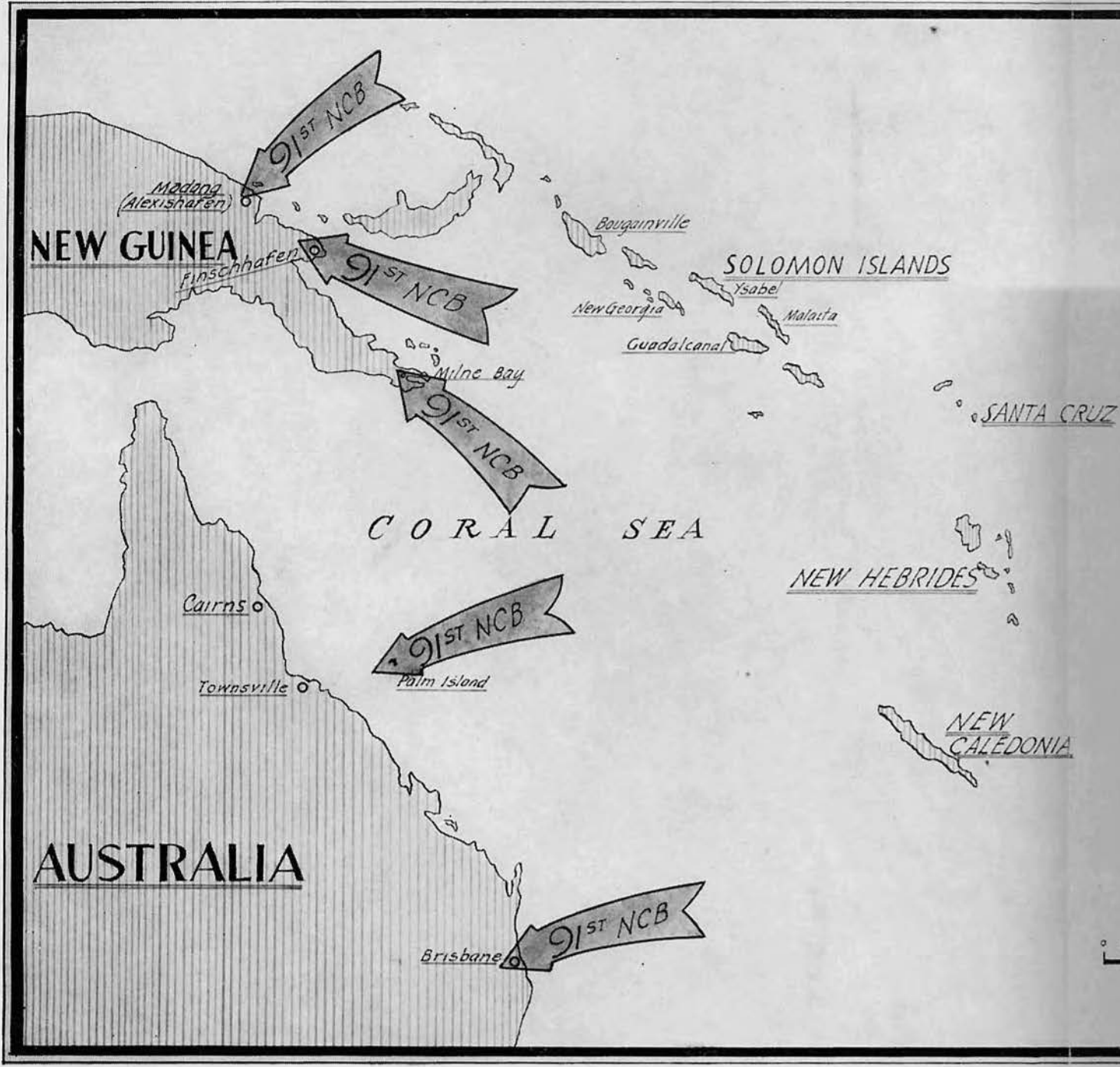
Supply



PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

HOMERON





NEW GUINEA

AUSTRALIA

CORAL SEA

SOLOMON ISLANDS

NEW HEBRIDES

NEW CALEDONIA

*Madang
(Alexishafen)*

Finschhafen

Milne Bay

Bougainville

New Georgia

Guadalcanal

Ysabel

Malaita

SANTA CRUZ

Cairns

Townsville

Palm Island

Brisbane

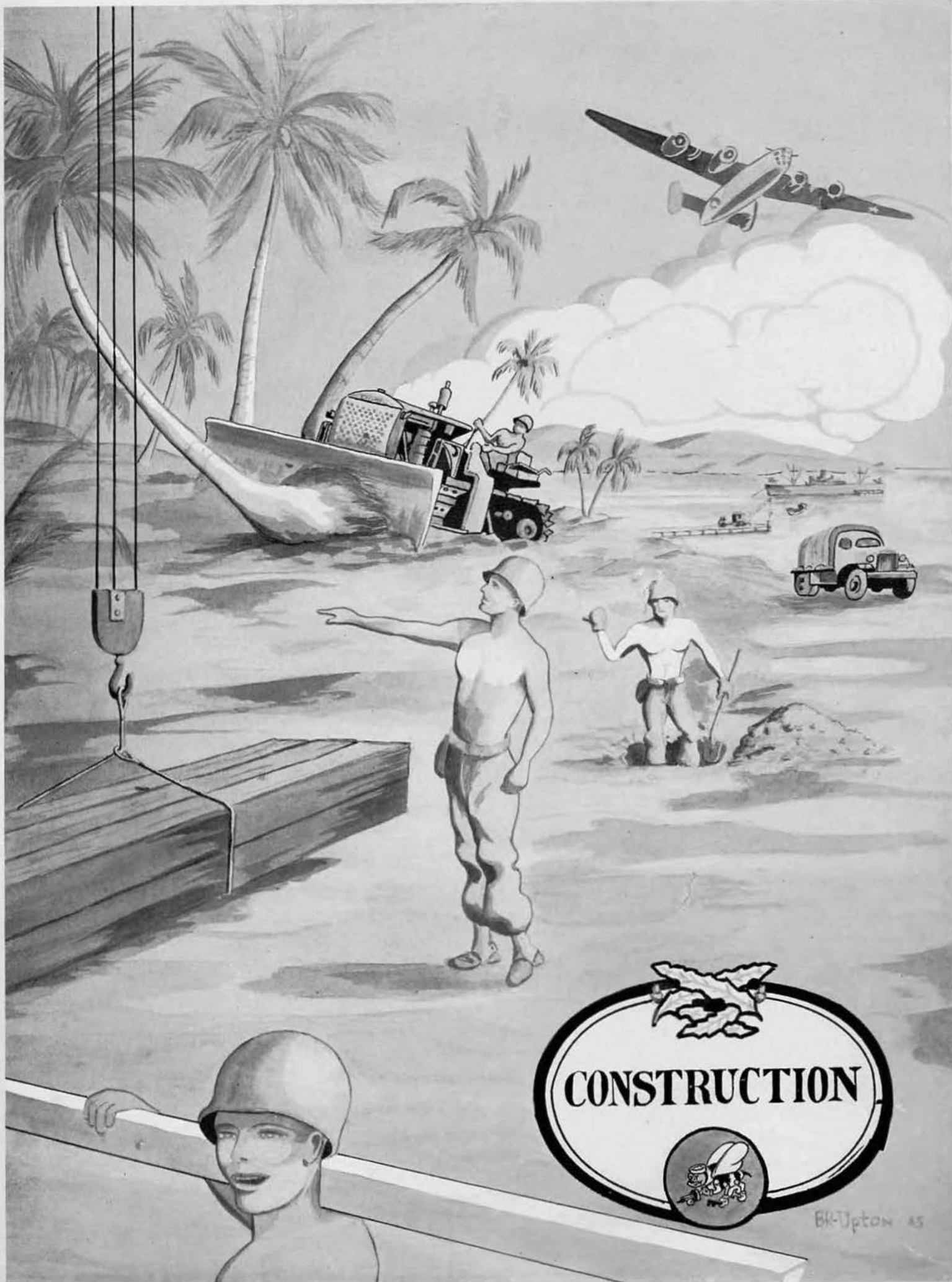
91st NCB

91st NCB

91st NCB

91st NCB

91st NCB



CONSTRUCTION

BR-Upton '45



**A Clearing
in the Philippines**

**One of Our
Philippine
Road Projects**



**This One Was
in New Guinea**

NEW GUINEA



One of heavy equipment's work horses



Loading gravel for highway fill



A dual operation—draining a malarial swamp while obtaining coral fill



MILNE BAY

Timber Repair Dock



Small boat dock
and jetty



Wehuria Bridge

PHILIPPINES

Floating pile driver



Timber dock constructed of Philippine mahogany



View of T-section of the above dock



Launching a pontoon string



Loading equipment on pontoon barges



**Floating pontoon dock
in the Philippines**



Assembling pontoon causeways for the Philippine landings



Aerial view of pontoon causeways



Temporary pontoon dock



Assembling pontoon barges in the Philippines



- These 100 men barracks were designed and built by the 91st for a naval receiving station in New Guinea



Interior view of the above barracks showing the double bunks



400-men barracks at a New Guinea base



Corpsmen barracks at a naval hospital project



Another 91st designed barracks



A low-cost housing development in the Philippines



The pictures
on these two pages
show various types of
Chow Halls
constructed by the 91st

Capacity
Top—2,500 men
Center—1,000 men
Bottom—1,200 men



NEW GUINEA





Capacity
1,200 men
New Guinea



Capacity
2,000 men
Philippines

Capacity
6,000 men
Philippines





Fire-Fighting School



Fleet Post Office



**Commanding Officer's
Quarters**



Enlisted Men's Quarters



Regimental Offices

**The pictures on these two pages show
various adaptations of the Quonset hut.**



PT Repair Shops



Fleet Officers' Club



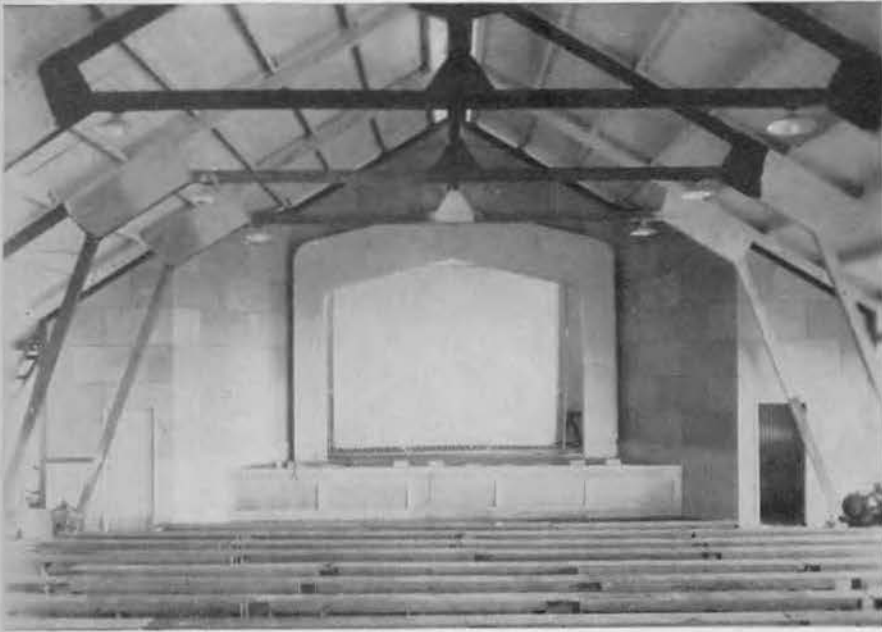
**Officers' Quarters
and Repair Shops**



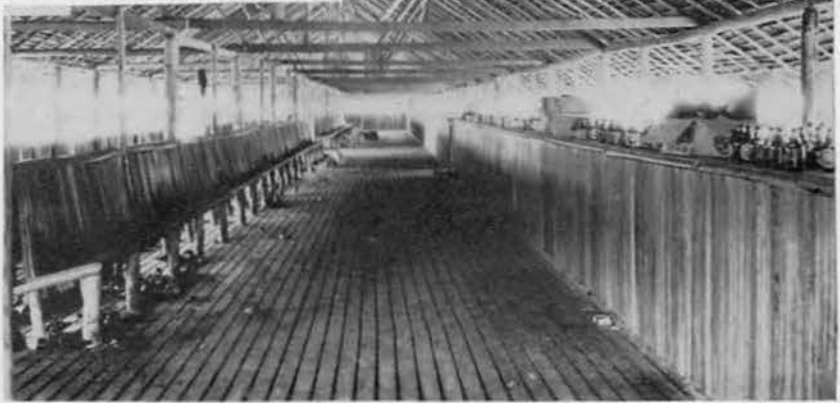
**Types of Elevated Structures
Erected by the 91st**



Various Types of Recreational Facilities



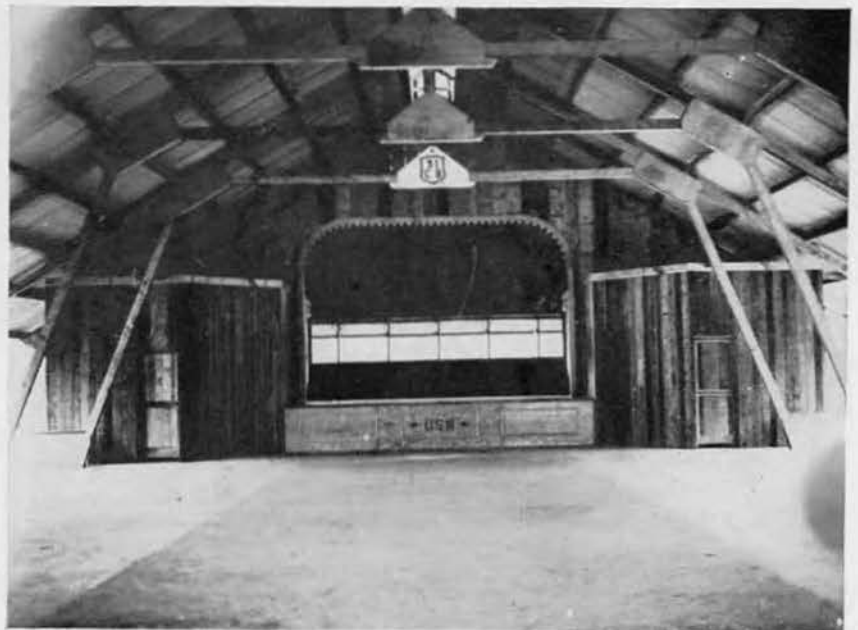
Theater For Naval Hospital



Enlisted Men's Beer Hall



The "New Guinea Music Hall"



P.T. Base Recreation Building



Naval base chapel



We aided the Aussies in building
this small roadside chapel



Interior view
of hospital chapel



One of our ditching machines in action



No frost worries on this pipe line job



Placing mahogany stringers on timber dock approach



Corduroy road construction



One of our New Guinea ready-mix plants



Naval Administration building



Six miles by water—fifty by land



Small boat dock built for the Aussies



Swing shift dock workers

First row (l to r): Fitzgerald, Barile, Alonzo, Larson, Cuozzo, Long, Hall, Starner, Van Orden. *Standing:* Lt. Burns, Cooper, Wareham, Di Biase, Hudson, Unti, Steed, Herrick, Wallace, Koontz, Willard, Marriott, Allgire, Fliszar, Hoglen



Carragher's staff
in an idle moment



Fresh water line in the Philippines



Philippine ready-mix concrete plant



Water filtration plant under construction



Frame warehouse under construction



Frame warehouse under construction



That New Guinea aggregate ran just a bit coarse.



Left—Day shift dock workers

Front row: Catron, McGovern, Delaney, Clements, Nealon, Hearn, Young, Phillips, Bassegio, Gifford, Lester, Schmalz, White, Ramstad

Back row: Sandstrom, Jones, Tefft, Lt. Ginn, High, Millwater, Stone, Cambas, Wood, Sheetz, Anderson, Loro, Sokoloff, Farue, Rafferty, Johnson, Grace, Reardon, Mitchell, Stephens, Hansing



Left—Graveyard shift dock workers

Snyder, Merrill, Hovey, Foster, Arnes, Camuti, Rice, Currier, Zdanok, Bourque, Forsyth, Baldwin, Larson, Brown, Stromberg, DeCroo, CWO Shirk



6,000-man chow hall



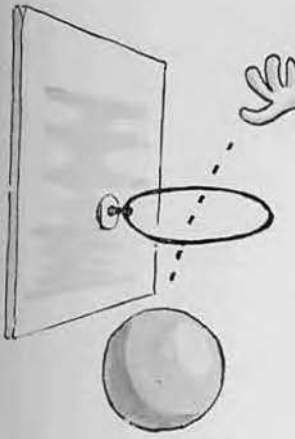
New Guinea repair dock



Storage warehouses



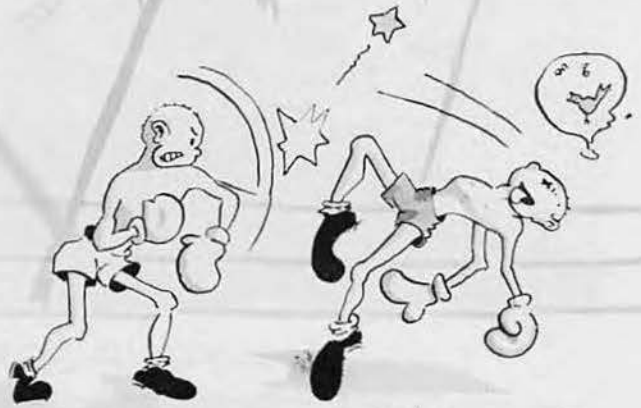
Fire in the hole!



REMEMBER
OUR
"ZIPPO KIDS"
THAT
NEVER LOST A
GAME?



OUR BOXING
MATCHES?



OUR TRACK
MEET?



D. RUFFIN

OUR NUMEROUS
SOFTBALL GAMES?



"AND THEN OF COURSE
THERE WAS OUR-
FAVORITE SPORT."

SPORTS



91st BASKETBALL TEAM

Front row (l. to r.): Mussie, Lontine, Lewis, Hete, Buchanan, Lockwood

Back row (l. to r.): Coach Bawden, Gifford, Capt. Knoll, Paschal, Kneeland, Barnes, Wright, Nichols

BASKETBALL

During its twelve months of official existence our basketball team has become widely known in New Guinea and in the Philippines. While running up a string of forty-eight straight wins, our "Cagers" defeated the Fiji Island champions, the winners of a Hawaiian league, a New Guinea championship team and the champions of a nearby Philippine base.

When we first landed in New Guinea, basketball received very little consideration until a neighboring Aussie "ack-ack" unit erected a crude court in a field near our camp. Numerous teams were soon formed; "Nick's All-Stars" was probably the best known and strongest of these teams, winning 51 of 62 games played. Nichols and Kneeland were co-captains of the All-Stars; Ramstad, R. Sanders, L. Sanders, Longtine, Knoll, Hete and Mussie completed the line-up. Other well-known teams were "Wright's Five", "Lewis' Huskies", "Forsythe's Rams", and the "Armed Guard Mustangs."

Upon moving to our second New Guinea base, basketball was officially inaugurated with a battalion team coached by the capable and well-liked Lt. (jg) Bawden. Headed by Captain Dale Knoll and ably assisted by teammates Kneeland, Nichols, Lewis, Buchanan, Hete, Sanders, Longtine, Mussie, Barnes and Paschal, these cagers swept aside all opposition, winning 36 straight games while losing none. This team averaged 56 points per game in garnering 1988 points against 887 for the opposition. When duty in the Philippines called, the 91st was leading the Southern League with five wins and no losses.

Since moving to the Philippines, the 91st has continued to run roughshod over neighboring teams and is undefeated while winning twelve straight games. The new team has the same players, with the addition of two "B" Company men—Lockwood and Gifford.

Hats off to Coach Bawden, Captain Knoll, and all the team members for their fighting spirit and excellent play in establishing this fine record.





**THE "ZIPPO" KIDS
TAKING A FAST
WORKOUT!**





Our hard-hitting softball stars

*Front row: Buchanan, Hete, Kondayan, Lilla, Fitzgerald, Triche
Second row: Waddle, Sokoloff, Bechtel, Mgr. Brown, Knoll, Buonassi, Farve*

SOFTBALL ACTIVITIES

Our first softball teams were organized at Camp Endicott during our training period. A battalion league was formed among the various companies and "D" company emerged the winner after several hectic battles.

Soon after arrival in New Guinea a battalion softball team was formed which won twenty-two of its thirty games. At our next base, Mr. Brown was appointed coach and his well-rounded team won the naval base championship, in addition to defeating the Army League champs in a no-hit, no-run game. Our excellent softball diamond at this base was dedicated to the memory of three departed mates: Anderson Smith, Clifford Burwell, and William Lesiuk.

In the Philippines, the 91st team has added to its laurels, winning twenty-three games while losing eight. Winners of the Navy league title, the boys have recently won the undisputed championship of the island by defeating the Army league champs in two straight games.



Lt. Bawden gets ready to clout one!



Chief's Softball Team

*First row: Szecheny, Van Eenennaam, Calloway, Mahoney, Goett
Second row: Garrison, Brogdon, Doakes, Knight, Allen, McComsey, Cheatham*



Can you identify those two prominent battalion figures on the sidelines?



Dettelbach takes a healthy cut

VOLLEY BALL



While volley ball has never assumed major-league stature in the eyes of the battalion, it is nevertheless a popular sport. In New Guinea an inter-battalion tournament was successfully staged while the battalion team battled some of the nearby Army teams. In the Philippine area the 91st officers team won the first-half pennant in the Naval Officers League.

NAVY vs. ARMY

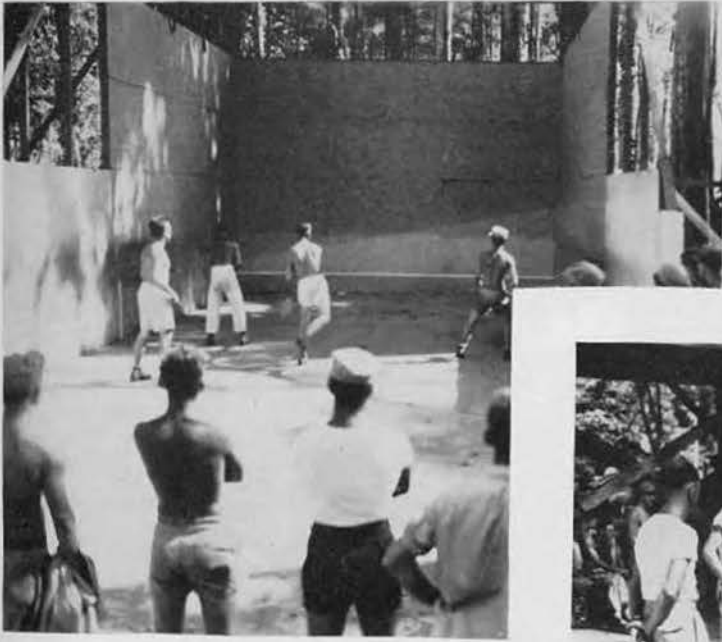
The pictures on these two pages were taken in New Guinea at a joint field day held by the 91st in conjunction with the 650th Topographic Engineers of the Army. This field day was the outcome of a series of hard fought basketball and softball contests between the two units, during which time a strong feeling of mutual liking sprang up among the "allied servicemen". Needless to say an excellent time was had by one and all. The 91st won most of the athletic events but the soldiers hollered louder and drank more free "coke" so the day ended approximately in a dead heat.



Top—Comdr. Hewett and Lt.-Col. Holland looking over a close one.

Center—Chief Pitchie shows 'em how they did it back in Huntington Park, Calif.

Left—Part of the huge field-day crowd.



Various Field-Day Events





Officers Softball Team

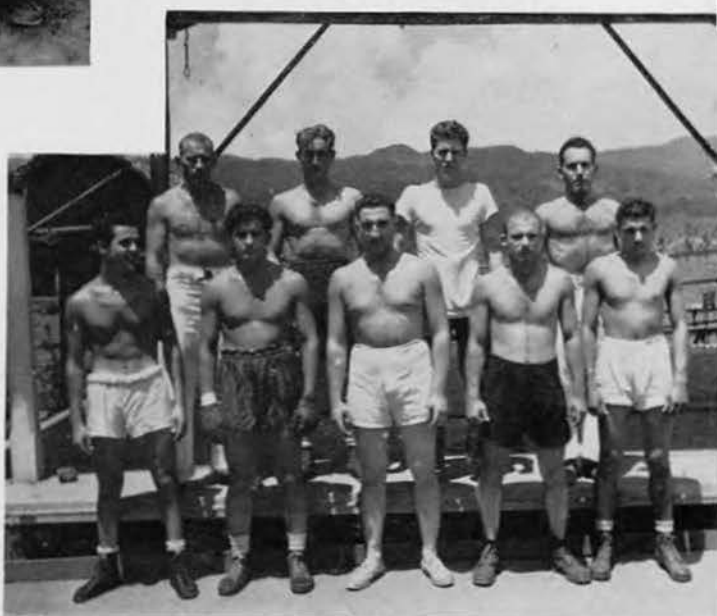
Front row: Siegel, Graham, Carragher, Comdr. Hewett, Simkonis

Back row: Brown, Sigman, Bawden, Grab, Smith, Morris, Keedwell, McBain.

MISCELLANEOUS SPORTS



Gabert and Hutchison indulge in the latest fad—the washer game.



Remember the riot at the Aussie stadium the night these boys fought?

First row: DiLorenzo, Yelovich, Loro, Rodriquez, Alexander
Second row: Hansen, Pierce, Ryan, Kupperstein

Lt. Bawden looks a bit skeptical as the Skipper heaves one.



NATIVE SCENES





These little pickaninnies were very shy but liked chewing gum and candy

Right—These youngsters enjoyed posing for the camera man

Below—A proud and smiling parent



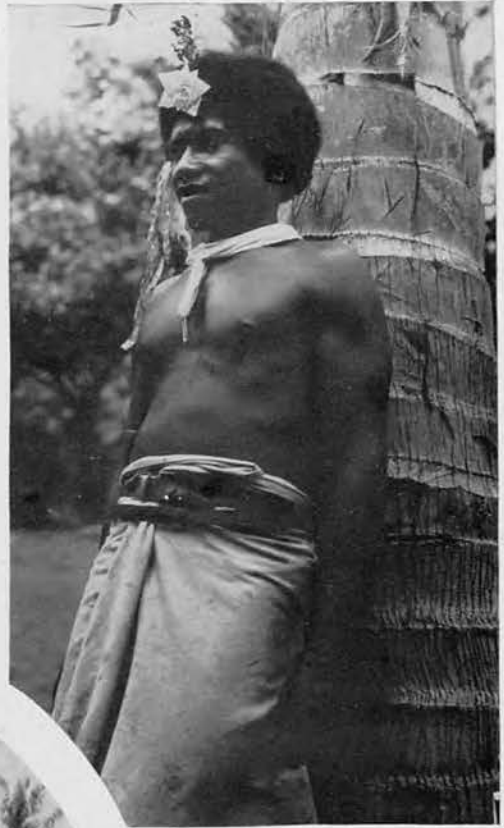
A New Guinea jitterbug in his zoot suit

Below — These two officers were taking no chances with the former head-hunters.





Living room furniture is a scarce article in New Guinea homes.



That flower indicates that this young man is ready for matrimony.



Below — This chap looks mighty tough but he's really the local dancing master.

Left — Commander Gene Tunney, former heavy weight champ, with three local athletes.



Below—Clothes are a very minor problem with these Papuan belles.





So that's where the stateside cigarettes are going!



Who said vaudeville was dead?

Right—These Papuans may have been discussing the progress of the Pacific war—who knows?



These natives are celebrating Christmas with a tribal dance.

Another view of the week-long Christmas festivities.





Very few blondes in this village



Carragher, Hartline, Willey, Bond, and McAweeney pay a Sunday visit.



One of the snappiest dressers in the village

A typical home



Just Married!





This mountain-locked bay was the site of our first New Guinea base



A partial view of our first camp



A few Seabees managed to get themselves lost in these dense mountain jungles

Right—Infra-red film was used to make this striking shot of the bay.



Below—This mountain home is faintly reminiscent of a Smoky Mountain cabin.



Right above—Who said the boys were on shore duty??



Right: Comdr. Tunney and Lt. Comdr. Gabrielsen, recreation officers of Milne Bay, planning athletic fields with Comdr. Hewett.



This fleet post office building was formerly a native mission



Above and below—These two pictures were taken after a rainy weekend.



Twenty-five inches of rain in forty-eight hours and the land disappeared.



Wrecked landing craft at our first base.





This beautiful old tree was a familiar landmark along the beach.



The old fleet post office just before it was replaced by modern buildings.



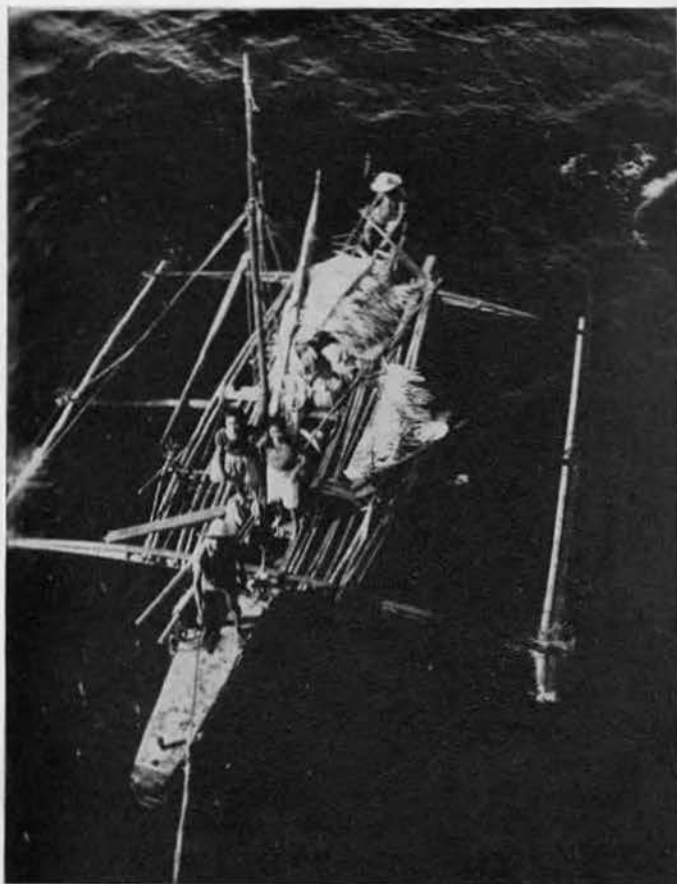
Right — This tropical moon was wasted as far as we were concerned!!



Our survey chiefs look worried — maybe they're lost!!



And yet another view of the harbor



Left—These Filipinos came out to the ship to trade souvenirs for cigarettes and clothing



Above—Interior of the old village church



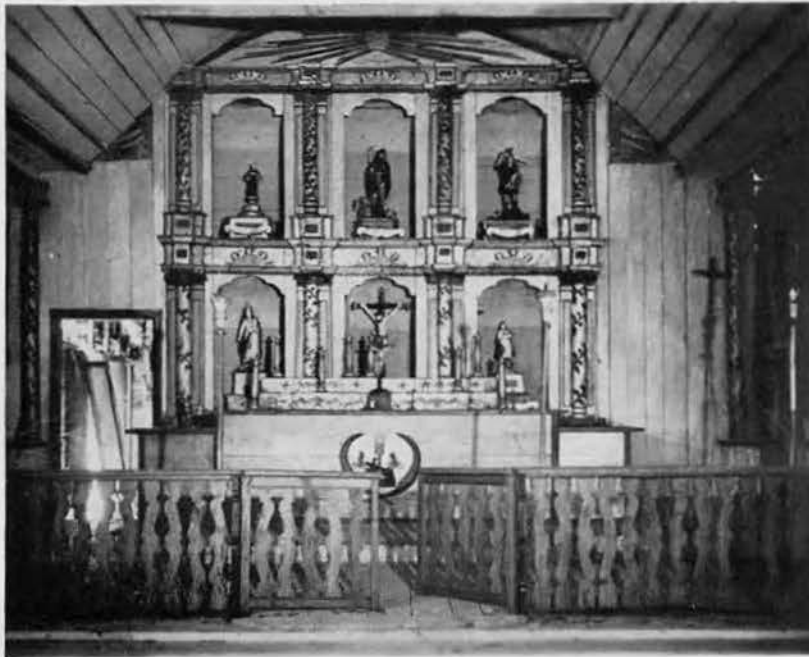
This ancient Spanish-style church across the public square reputed to be over three hundred years old

Below—Street scene in a typhoon-damaged Philippine village





These two shots above are views of the nearby village



Left — Interior of the village church

Below — Well-to-do island farmer and his grandson

Below — These Filipino women furnished neat and rapid laundry service during our early days on the island.





The island matron is dressed in typical Sunday finery



This might be a good idea for a security poster



Open-air laundry operations



Honest, honey, they weren't all like this one!!



Typical island home



Village church bells



For some obscure reason the natives never milked these island cattle



This placid beast was fond of the muddy spots



The 91st goes ashore in the Philippines



Unlike the days our evenings were cool and pleasant



Moonlight on the Pacific



Two methods of crossing a swamp — native coral causeway on the left, a Seabee road on the right.



One of our first “modern improvements” on the island.



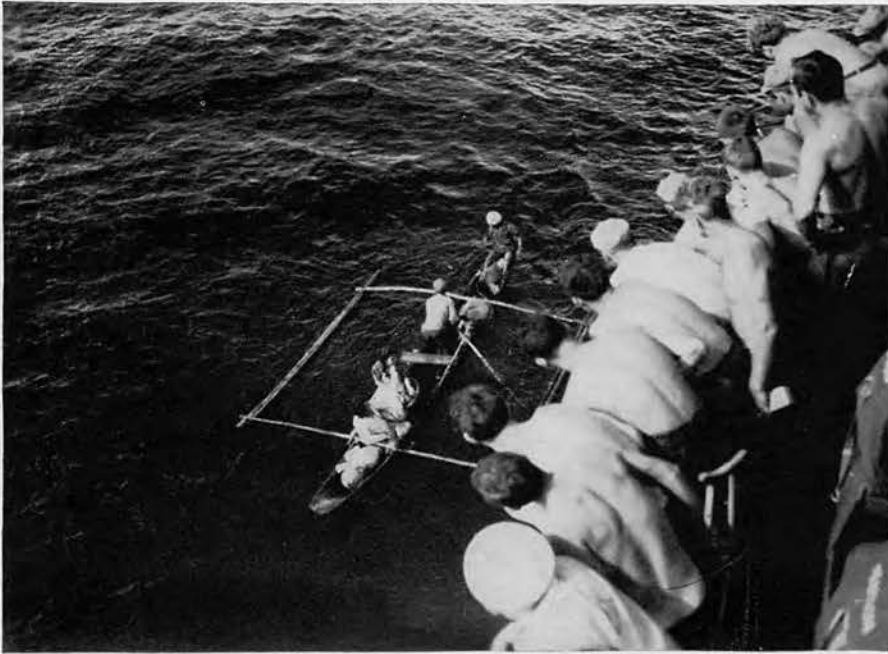
The natives stayed strictly near the beach while the interior of the island was a wild maze of jungle growth.

This seaworthy craft carried islanders to the "mainland" for the numerous holidays and festivals



Typical
native village
scenery





Left — A combined welcome and trading expedition

Below—Strong tidal currents made landing operations a tricky business.



Above—No question about the identity of this camp!!



Right—The island fisherman caught many ocean denizens in these bamboo fish traps.

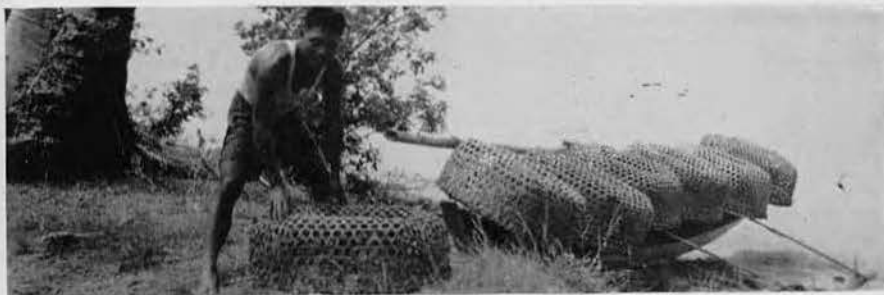




The clothes these children are wearing once adorned the broad backs of U. S. fighting men



These youngsters were excellent swimmers and could dive to amazing depths for small coins



A native fisherman starting out on his day's work



These little girls certainly don't look forlorn

These nipa huts looked insecure but somehow managed to withstand the frequent typhoons



When business was unusually brisk even father took a hand in the laundry.



The last typhoon proved almost too much for this picturesque schoolyard gate



ENTERTAINMENT





91st String Band — these boys travelled many miles bringing entertainment to other units as well as our own.

First row: Ollie Johnson, Comdr. Hewett, Lt. (jg) Munson, Lou Danksha

Second row: A. M. Johnson, Collier, Lovell, Eaton, Mitchell, O'Neill, Eichelburger, Hamilton, Pierce



The late Lou Danksha giving forth with one of his inimitable song specialties at the opening of our first theatre.



No stage show was complete without Ollie and Lou.



Left—A huge crowd witnessed this performance of "Over Twenty-one" starring Helen Ford, supported by an excellent cast.



The Extra Efforts we put into our theatre construction were repaid in full by the many hours of pleasure derived from its use.



Comdr. Hewett delivering dedicatory address on opening night of our Philippine theatre.



91st Swing Band

First row (l to r): G. D. Long, D. S. Cheney, H. Mussie, J. O. McIntyre, I. L. Slane, W. C. McPherson, L. R. Landon

Second row (l to r): R. A. Ryman, D. W. Hartshorne, J. Faccone, A. A. Dupuis, R. H. Meacham, R. C. Ward, W. P. Sanders



Mr. Carragher introduces the Skipper



The Carragher-Graham duo bursts forth into song



Eaton and Mitchell take the spotlight



Curatolo steps forth for a bit of crooning



Somebody will have some explaining to do soon!



The island temperature rose several degrees when Candy Jones, the famous model, paid us a visit.

USO

At our isolated bases, where monotony was the byword, the most conspicuous, most discussed and by far the most important lack was *WOMEN!* When a travelling USO troupe would suddenly appear to puncture this sheltered existence, the shock of seeing beautiful American girls in person would almost prove too much for some of the jungle-happy Seabees.

Before a huge crowd of avid spectators would appear a parade of talented dancers, singers, jugglers and musicians and, for a few minutes, all worries were forgotten and we were once again on American soil.

Despite the long hours of arduous travel and strenuous performances the female members of the cast (God bless 'em) would usually visit our impromptu dance hall after the show to jitterbug with all comers until a late hour. The following day if time permitted they would stand behind the serving counter to ladle out food to the boys or would make an inspection tour of our construction jobs.

Many thanks to these hardy troupers who ventured halfway around the globe to bring us a touch of home!



Tamm and Richards brought down the house with their cracker-breaking duel.



This excellent ventriloquist held our attention despite the eye-filling scenery on the left.



Christmas Eve, 1943, opening night for the Scorpion's Club at our first base

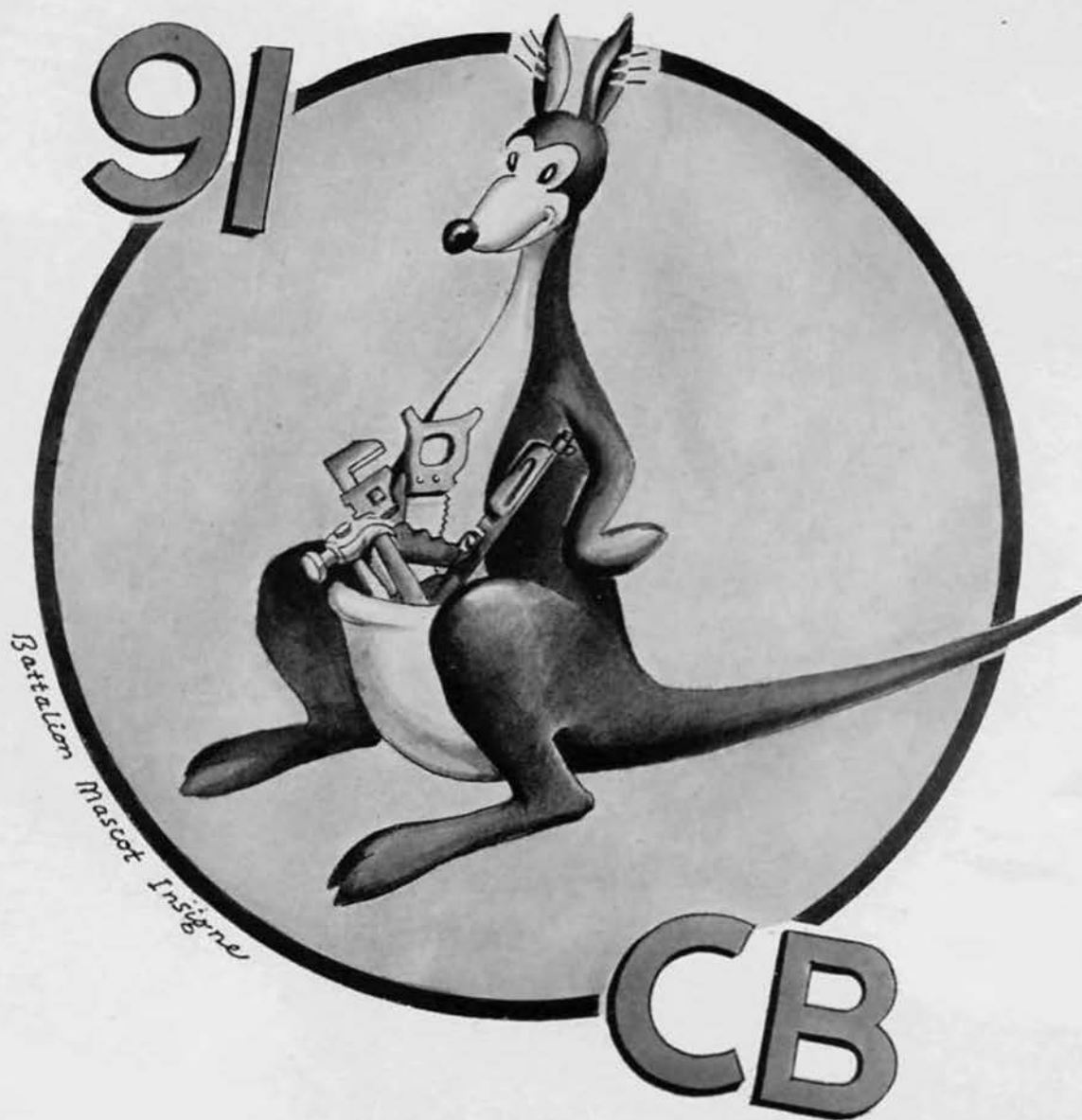


Above—Farewell party as Lt. Everard leaves for the U. S.



Lt. Takacs gets stateside orders and a farewell party soon follows.

MISCELLANY



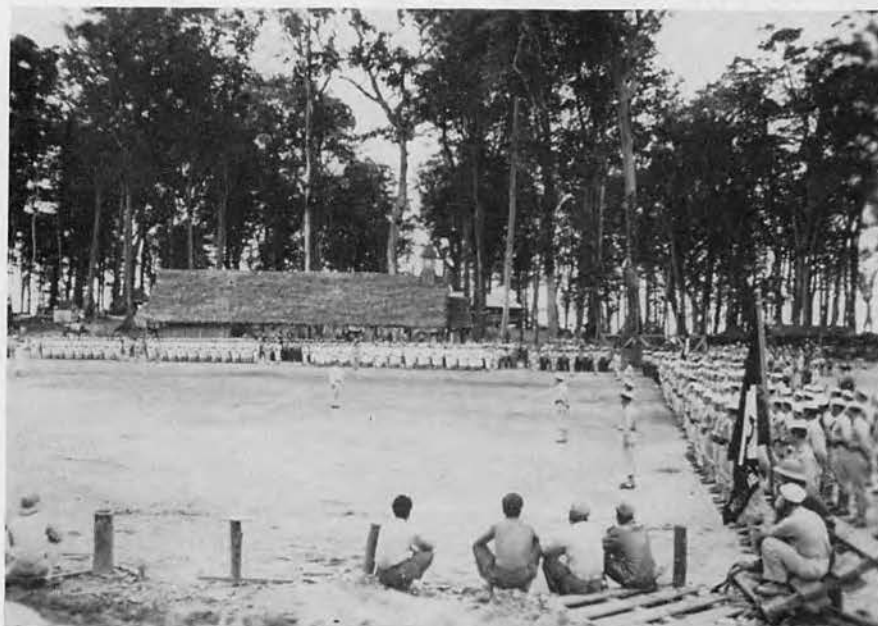
Last Minute Items!



Captain F. C. Bumpus, commanding officer of the naval base, and his executive officer, Comdr. Graham, congratulate the Skipper as the 91st wins top honors at the Navy Day parade.



The 91st military band sets the pace for the marching units.



Captain Bumpus commending the 91st on its fine appearance.



Lt. Takacs leads the battalion past the reviewing stand.



A Company



C Company

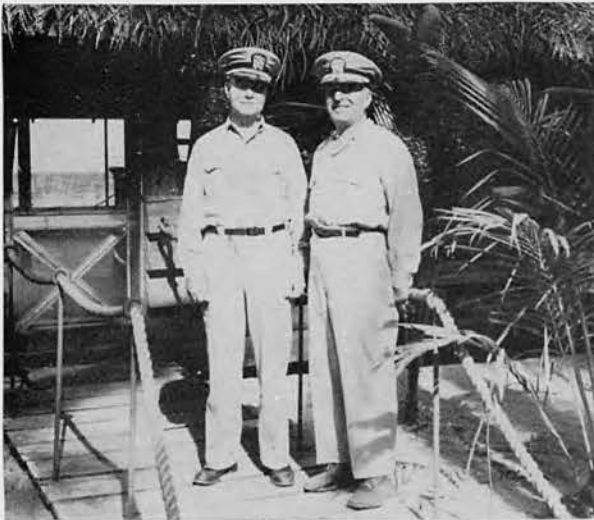


D Company



The pictures on this page show some of the high-ranking Naval officers under whose supervision the battalion operated

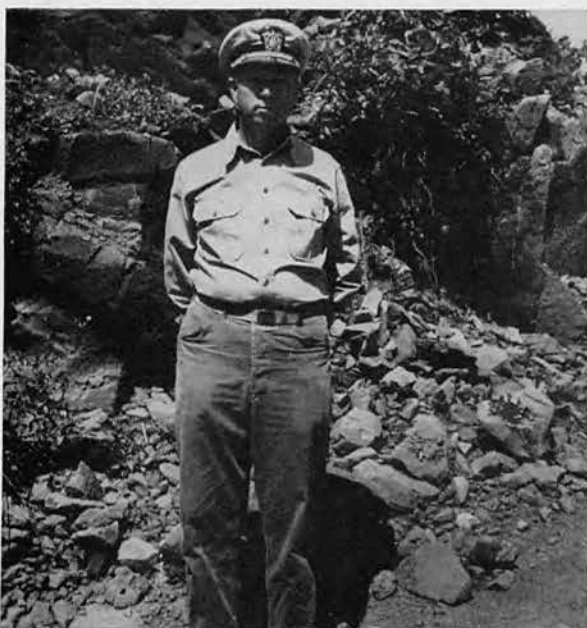
Left—(l to r) Rear Admiral R. O. Glover, Commander, Service Force, 7th Fleet; Comdr. R. C. Hollyday, Acting OinC, 2nd Constr. Brigade; Capt. S. B. Robinson, Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Station, Navy 3149; Commodore W. M. Angus, OinC of Construction, 7th Fleet; Captain W. D. Leggett, 7th Fleet and Service Force Maintenance Officer; Comdr. L. F. Hewett, OinC, 91st Constr. Battalion



Comdr. J. R. Nealon, OinC 31st Regiment with Comdr. Hewett



Comdr. E. M. Kelly, Exec. Officer, Second Brigade

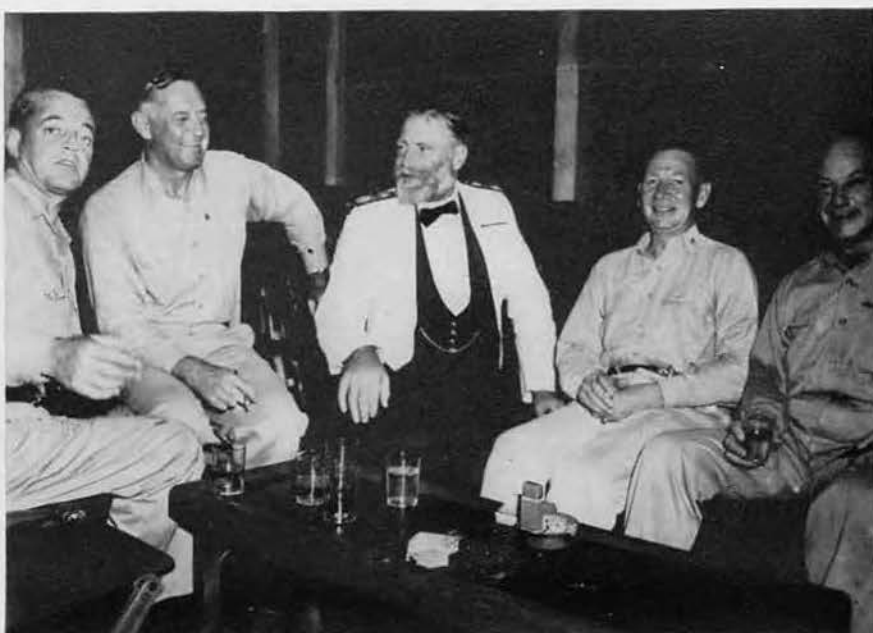


Comdr. C. M. Herd, Officer-in-Charge 19th Construction Regiment



Comdr. B. G. Wade, Commanding Officer, Ship Repair Unit; Comdr. R. C. Hollyday, Acting OinC of 2nd Construction Brigade; Comdr. L. F. Hewett, OinC 91st Constr. Battalion, Comdr. E. H. Honnen, OinC 96th Constr. Battalion

Right—High-ranking guests at the Scorpion Club. (1 to r) Captain Brantley, USN Amphibious Training Center; Captain Spanagel USN, USS Nashville; Admiral Cruxley, RAN; Capt. Noble, USN, USS Phoenix; Rear Admiral Berkey, USN, 7th Fleet Cruiser Division.



Below—Island X trio celebrating promotion of Commander Brad Bowker to Captain. On right of Commander Hewett is Commander LaPorte and Captain Bowker.

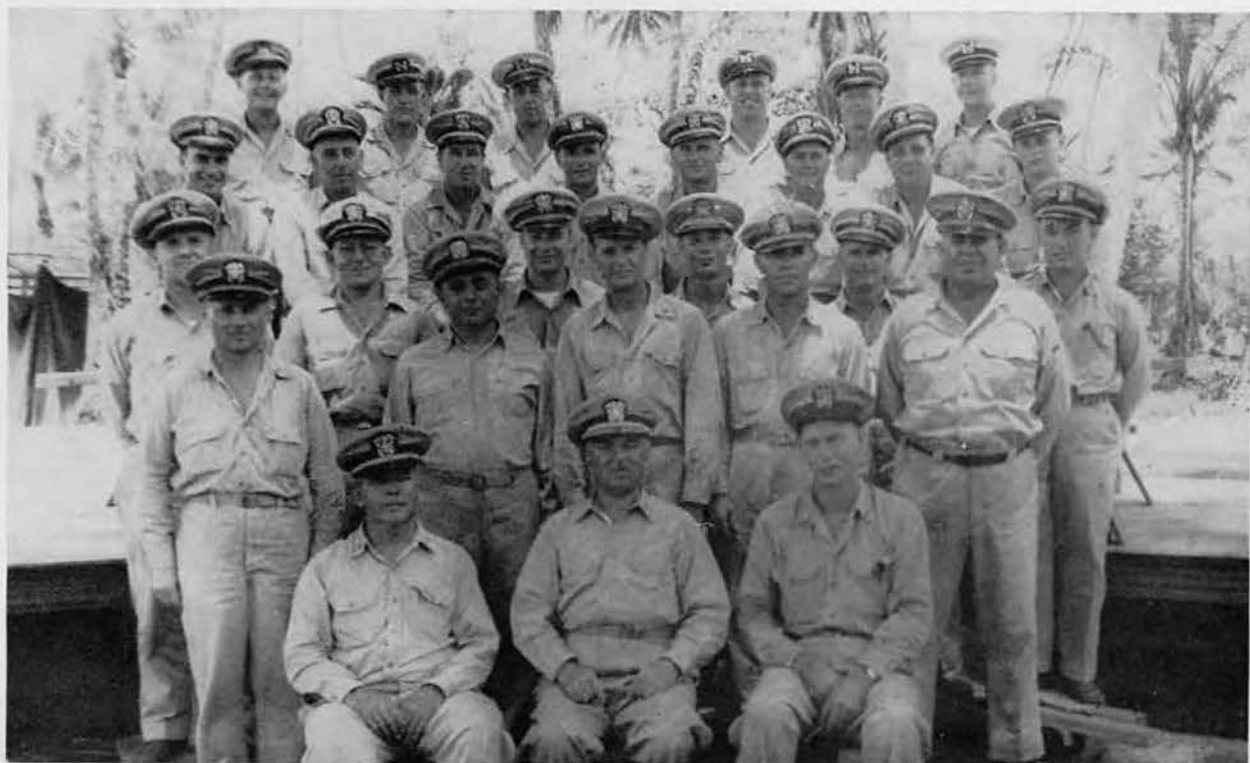


Above — Commander Eddie Peabody, USNR, stage and radio notable, brought his troupe of entertainers to the 91st. Captain Lanny Ross (extreme left) was on hand to help greet his fellow celebrity.



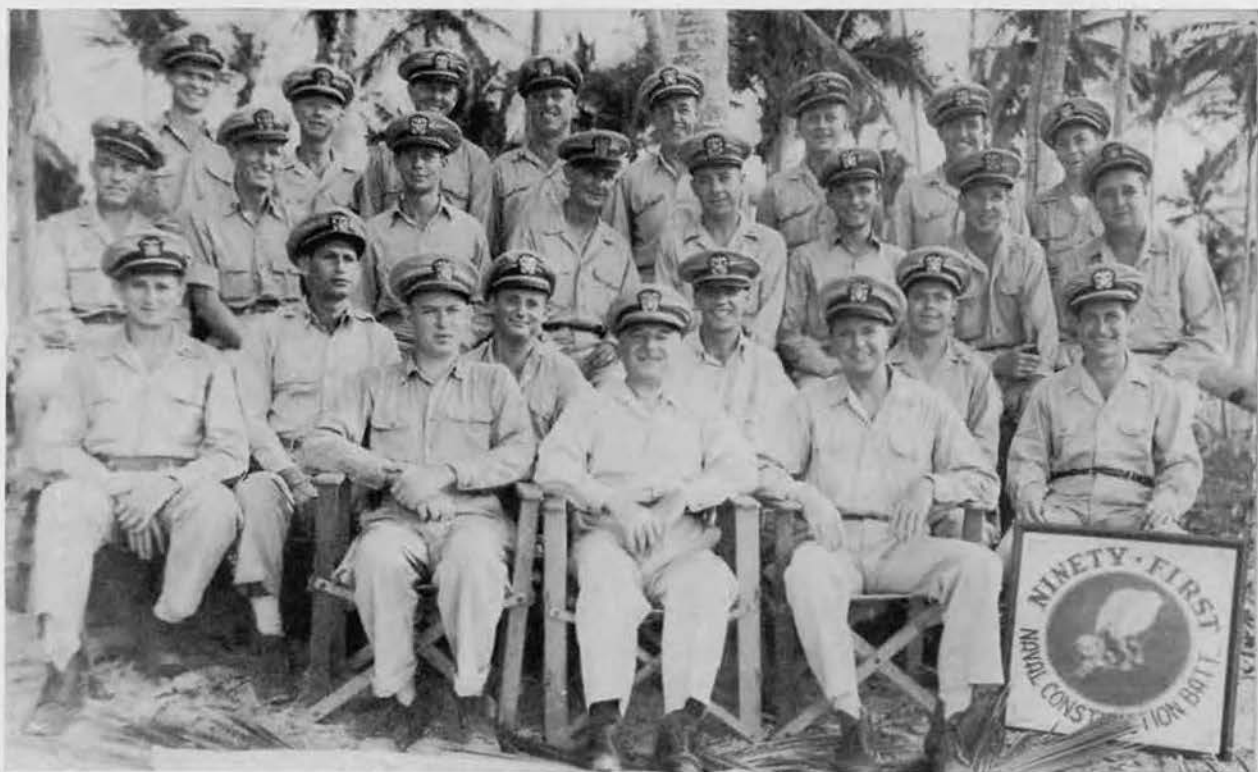
Left—Al Schact, of baseball fame, takes a man-sized drink on the occasion of our first anniversary overseas.

Anniversary Pictures of the 91st Officers



February 19, 1944

1st row: Lt. Comdr. Stroh, Comdr. Hewett, Lt. Johnson, *2nd row:* Lt. Lohnes, Lt. Greene, Lt. Takaacs, Lt. Garbi, Lt. Brumm. *3rd row:* Lt. (jg) Sassaman, Lt. (jg) Everard, Lt. (jg) Jones, Lt. (jg) Beall, Lt. (jg) McGuire, Lt. (jg) Rodgers. *4th row:* Ensign R. C. Burns, Ensign Peters, Ensign J. P. Burns, Ensign Solomon, Ensign Wtulich, Ensign Munson, Ensign Bawden, Ensign Bond. *5th row:* W.O. Shirk, W.O. Graham, W.O. Grab, W.O. Brown, W.O. Carragher, W.O. Simkonis.



February 19, 1945

1st row: Lt. Comdr. Johnson, Comdr. Hewett, Lt. Takaacs. *2nd row:* Lt. Comdr. Hammond, Lt. Stone, Lt. Lerman, Lt. Hopper, Lt. (jg) Magee, Ensign Pryzant, *3rd row:* Lt. Rodgers, Lt. Guthrie, Lt. Beall, Lt. Ginn, Lt. (jg) Peters, Lt. (jg) Solomon, Lt. (jg) Burns, Lt. (jg) Bawden, *4th row:* Ensign Loeffler, C.W.O. Carragher, C.W.O. Simkonis, C.W.O. Brown, C.W.O. Grab, C.W.O. Shirk, C.W.O. Graham, Ensign Maclin.

91st Chief Petty Officers



February 19, 1944

Front row: Henriquez, Manley, Upton, Phelps, Comdr. Hewett, Bentsen, Kelly, Wheeler, Martz. *2nd row:* Mitchell, DeGrasse, Hartline, Pitchie, Muir, Barmore, Shenewerk, Chestnut, Bailey, Nash, Clark. *3rd row:* Tefft, Smiley, Sawyer, Danksha, Lee, Bixler, Loftus, Taylor, Cherry, Moran, Griffith. *4th row:* Gallagher, Campbell, Spaugh, McMahon, Gohlke, O'Rourke, Garrison, Dole, Mixter, Ayres, Burger, Knight, Stacey. *5th row:* Law, McAweeney, Engler, Villano, Keller, Langnes, McDonald, Cheatham, Ellis.



Lt. (jg) Eugene S. Wtulich
former "A" Company Commander



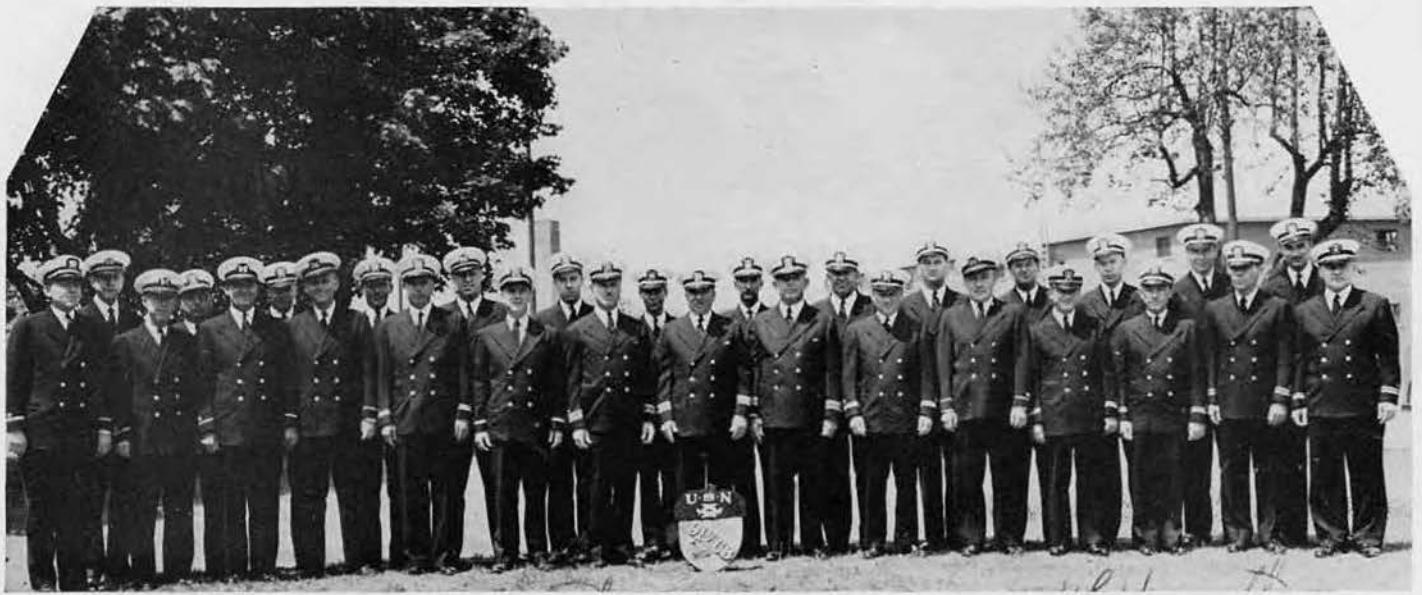
Lt. (jg) Robert C. Burns, Jr.
former "D" Company Commander



Lt. James T. Lohnes
former Junior Medical Officer



Lt. Thomas G. McGuire
former Headquarters Company Commander



This picture taken at Camp Endicott, R. I., June 1943, caught many of our former officers.

Left to Right: Ensign Everard, W.O. Simkonis, W.O. Carragher, Lt. (jg) Greene, W.O. Kinsella, Ensign Jones, W.O. Shirk, Ensign Solomon, Lt. (jg) Locke, W.O. Brown, Ensign Munson, Ensign Peters, Lt. Comdr. Haworth, Lt. (jg) Beall, Comdr. Hewett, Lt. Lanzoni, Lt. Comdr. Stroh, Lt. Brumm, Lt. (jg) Lohnes, Ensign Wtulich, W.O. Willey, Lt. Takaes, Lt. (jg) McGuire, Lt. Johnson, Lt. (jg) Rodgers, Ensign Burns, Lt. Garbi, Lt. (jg) Lechterman, Lt. (jg) Sasseraman.



A few more of our early officers

First row: Lt. McGuire, Lt. Greene, Lt. Lohnes. *Second row:* Lt. Rodgers, Lt. (jg) Munson, Lt. Beall, Lt. Kinsella



Lt. Clayton H. Fralick

These three officers arrived recently



Ensign Stanley T. Siegel



Ensign Gerald J. Summerson



This prize-winning hut was the last word in tropical comfort. The zippo-winners shown are DiBiase, Duby, Triplett and Lovell.



Another prize winning home. The proud owners shown are Anderson, Barksdale, Skidmore and Kennedy. H. F. Carey and Doweritz were absent when this picture was taken.



Left—Flowers grew readily and added much to the general appearance of the camp.



Beer flowed freely at this party given by the 91st officers for the battalion athletic teams at Scorpions Club Philippines.



Above Right—The team managers and captains pose with the Skipper.

Below—The string band did its best, but it couldn't drown out this iron-lunged trio!



Center Right: Our Colors.



91st Military Band in the New Guinea days
First row: Slane, Matson, Shafer, Ryman, Earl, Facone, McPherson, Williams, Dupuis
Second row: Fagert, Meacham, Hoyle, Ward, Long, Cheney, Pasquale, Hoffman, Landon



Commander Hewett bids "B" Company farewell as the boys leave on their Australian assignment



Chaplain Sassaman leads the men in prayer before departure



Commander Graubart, naval base C. O., gives a farewell talk to the 91st



Left—These four officers should be familiar to all hands



Our first administration building

These views of our New Guinea camp buildings should bring back memories galore to the old-timers.



Chow hall at our first base



Theatre at our second base



Chapel at our second base



Our second chow hall



Barracks

Recent Job Pictures



Small boat dock



Officers' Quarters



Naval dispensary

OUR DAY OF VICTORY



A real VJ day celebration in the Scorpion Club.



Looks like every one is happy and (not dry.)



LOOKS LIKE FAREWELL



The last of original 91st officers say farewell to the boys. They are heading home after 2 years overseas.



Sad looking bunch—they hate to leave the rest of the gang—but home, sweet home . . .

2nd ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN PHILIPPINES



Comdr. Hewett does the honors.



Cocktails and beer for all.



Our favorite pastime.

Alphabetical Roster of Officers

<i>Name</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Corps</i>	<i>Home Address</i>
BAWDEN, John E.	Lt. (jg)	CEC	311 W. 7th St., Carson City, Nevada
BEALL, Ralph D.	Lieut.	CEC	674 E. 38th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
BOYLE, Regis D.	Lieut.	ChC	416 Zara St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
BROWN, Emmett L.	C.W.O.	CEC	132-34 - 84th St., Ozone Park, L. I., N. Y.
BURNS, Joseph P.	Lt. (jg)	CEC	1135 Academy St., Watertown, N. Y.
CARRAGHER, Francis A.	C.W.O.	CEC	110 Dow St., Belleville, N. J.
EILERTS, Thomas T.	W.O.	CEC	1839 Cherrydale Ave., Baton Rouge, La.
FRALICK, Clayton H.	Lieut.	CEC	2730 N. 4th St., Milwaukee, Wisc.
GINN, Jesse W.	Lieut.	CEC	1830 Clement St., Apt. 3, San Francisco, Calif.
GRAB, Arthur R.	C.W.O.	CEC	4514 N. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Ill.
GRAHAM, Elwood	C.W.O.	CEC	2037 N. Central, Phoenix, Ariz.
GUTHRIE, John S.	Lieut.	CEC	Box 16, Stephenville, Texas
HAMMOND, Jack	Lt. Cmdr.	MC	1571 Undercliff Ave., Bronx 53, N. Y.
HEWETT, Louis F.	Cmdr.	CEC	38 E. 85th St., New York 28, N. Y.
JOHNSON, Burth A.	Lt. Cmdr.	CEC	5342 Byron St., Chicago, Ill.
LOEFFLER, John S.	Ensign	CEC	1723 Lafond Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
MACLIN, John C.	Ensign	CEC	1330 St. Vincent, Shreveport, La.
MAGEE, Frank J.	Lt. (jg)	SC	2013 Bennett, Evanston, Ill.
McBAIN, Jerry C.	W.O.	CEC	Minneapolis, Minn.
PETERS, Stanley B.	Lt. (jg)	CEC	323 Ocean Ave., Lakewood, N. J.
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 ALLSUP, James Hoite, Birmingham, Alabama
 ANDERSON, Arnold Gaylord, Chicago, Illinois
 ANDRACHEK, George (n), Monessen, Pennsylvania
 ARCHAMBAULT, Antonio, Jean, Thief River Falls, Minn.
 ARGENTI, Remigio (n), Bronx, New York
 ARMITAGE, George Robert, Huron, Michigan
 ARTHUR, Egbert Daniel, Grand Rapids, Michigan
 AVETA, Frank (n), Brooklyn, New York
 BAILEY, James Eugene, Canton, Ohio
 BANKS, Philip Sheridan, Mitchell, South Dakota
 BARMORE, Nelson, Shreveport, Louisiana
 BARRY, Joseph Edward, New York, New York
 BARTHOLOMEW, Richard Kent, Lakewood, Ohio
 BASCOMBE, Fred Leigh, Jr., Providence, Rhode Island
 BELL, Charles William, Pendleton, Oregon
 BENNETT, David (n), Kilgore, Texas
 BENTON, Orien A., Dallas, Texas
 BICKENHEUSER, W. E., Bedford, Indiana
 BICKFORD, Edward Milton, Boston, Massachusetts
 BIVENS, Joseph Tilmon, Jackson, Tennessee

Name and Place of Acceptance for Enlistment

BLACK, William G., Lawrenceberg, Kentucky
 BLACKWELL, Benjamin Jackson, Austin, Texas
 BLEEKER, Augustus Edward, Chicago, Illinois
 BLOCK, William John, Los Angeles, California
 BLUMAN, Arthur Leonard, Sharon, Pennsylvania
 BOGERT, George Herman, Jersey City, New Jersey
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 BRILEY, Marshall (n), Opelousas, Louisiana
 BROWN, Francis Nicholas, Boston, Massachusetts
 BRYSON, James Orville, Salida, Colorado
 *BURWELL, Clifford Robert, Canton, Ohio
 BUTLER, Frank Edward, Minneapolis, Minnesota
 BYBEE, Ralph Edward, Ontario, California
 CALDWELL, Clyde, H., Fort Worth, Texas
 CALDWELL, Lewis Ellsworth, Wenatchee, Washington
 CASSEL, Harold L., Lebanon Co., Pennsylvania
 CASWELL, James Arthur, Springfield, Massachusetts
 CATANZARO, Samuel Anthony, Poughkeepsie, New York
 CAVIRIS, Nicholas (n), New York, New York
 CEDAR, Paul Arvid, Sioux City, Iowa
 CHESTNUTT, Francis Love, New Orleans, Louisiana

Name and Place of Acceptance for Enlistment

COBB, Kedzie Pharr, Jacksonville, Florida
COCHRAN, Willie Frank, Atlanta, Georgia
COOK, Charles Allen, Houston, Texas
COOK, Jack "D", Oakland, California
COOPER, Bert Ellis, Seattle, Washington
COOPER, William Jennings Bryan, Des Moines, Iowa
COURTOIS, Raymond J., Providence, Rhode Island
COVEY, Alfred Allen, Chicago, Illinois
COYNE, Thomas (n), Brooklyn, New York
CLUZEN, Robert Roscoe, Seattle, Washington
CRAFT, Howard Baxter, Florence, Alabama
CRONKRIGHT, Emery LeRoy, Flint, Michigan
CROSNOE, Lee, Hugo, Oklahoma
CROW, Calvert Neal, Billings, Montana
CROWE, Walter Allen, Columbia, South Carolina
CRUMLEY, Claude Eugene, E. Chicago, Indiana
CRUTCHER, John P., Jr., Helena, Montana
CURTIS, Linus Bennet, Cleveland, Ohio
DALTON, Raleigh Thomas, Cleveland, Ohio
DAMPIER, Barney Lamar, Tampa, Florida
*DANKSHA, Louis Daniel, Albany, New York
DAVENPORT, Charles Lynn, Denver, Colorado
DAVIS, Lewis Kempt, Jamaica Plain, Mass.
DEESE, Earl Brevard, Charlotte, North Carolina
DESNOYERS, Eugene Albert, Cleveland, Ohio
DINGER, Darrell Junior, Farrell, Pennsylvania
DINSMORE, Kenneth John, Portland, Oregon
DOLE, Edwin Burton, Santa Paula, Calif.
DuBROFF, Kenneth Dale, Chicago, Illinois
DUNHAM, Cecil (n), Medford, Oklahoma
ELLIS, William Aldon, Little Rock, Arkansas
ERCANBRACK, Walter Allen, Baytown, Texas
ERDMAN, Frank Max, Glendale, Calif.
FARNSWORTH, George Morris, Jr., Tulsa, Oklahoma
FINCHER, Fred William, Shreveport, Louisiana
FLEEMAN, William Paul, Alexandria, Indiana
FOWLER, Richard (n), Providence, Rhode Island
FRENCH, Junior Alexander, Greenville, Tennessee
FULLER, Bramwell (n), Portland, Oregon
FUSS, Edward Richard, Rochester, New York
GALLAGHER, Edward Daniel, Chicago, Illinois
GALLAGHER, William Anthony, New York, New York
GANNON, Charles Francis, Philadelphia, Penna.
GEESLIN, Robert J., Cuthbert, Georgia
GIACHETTI, Robert Lawrence, Spokane, Washington
GIEM, Horace Edward, Colorado Springs, Colorado
GLASS, John Wiley, Corpus Christi, Texas
GOGNA, Joseph (n), Stockton, California
GOHLKE, William (n), Baltimore, Maryland
GOMEZ, Robert Fontes, Boston, Massachusetts
GOOD, Robin Hood, Washington, D. C.
GOODMAN, Howard (n), New York, New York
GOSS, George Louis, Seattle, Washington
GOUDIKIAN, John (n), Bronx, New York
GRAHAM, Lloyd Albert, Phoenix, Arizona
GRANT, George (n), New York, New York
GRIFFITH, William Harry, Sr., St. Louis, Missouri
GRIMM, Raymond Carroll, Mt. Vernon, Ohio
GUTHRIDGE, Donald James, St. Louis, Missouri
HAIL, Alexander, Jr. (n), Houston, Texas
HAMBLET, Ray Curtis, Los Angeles, California
HAMMOND, Loryll (n), Rockford, Illinois
HANSON, Erick Bernard, Chicago, Illinois
HARDY, William Herman, Bay City, Michigan
HARGIS, Leland G., Reistertown, Maryland
HART, Benjamin Boyd, Olean, New York
HART, Walden, Sprague, Haverhill, Mass.
HARTLINE, William Raymond, Los Angeles, Calif.
HAUBERT, Fred (n), Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Name and Place of Acceptance for Enlistment

HAWKS, Curtis Alexander, Jacksonville, Florida
HAYDEN, Montell Clarence, Pointe-a-la-Hache, Louisiana
HAYES, James Robert, Bronx, New York
HEAD, George Wilbur, Dallas, Texas
HEADLEE, Yale Harvey, Oakland, California
HEINEN, John L., Jr., Chicago, Illinois
HENDERSON, Fred (n), Toccoa, Georgia
HENRIQUEZ, Robert Earl, Madison, Wisconsin
HERBERT, Bert, Jr., Uniontown, Penna.
HERRICK, Robert Walls, Mt. Vernon, New York
HEWITT, Francis Butler, Jr., Redlands, California
HIGGINS, Jack Evan, Cheyenne, Wyoming
HILL, Donald Clarke, Haverhill, Mass.
HILL, Edward E., New York, New York
HINES, Thomas Binford, Norfolk, Virginia
HOFFMAN, Rex Laverne, Jamestown, North Dakota
HOLD, Frankie St. Clair, Tulsa, Oklahoma
HORNBERGER, Rudolph Gilven, Omaha, Nebraska
HORVATH, Julius Francis, San Francisco, California
HOULIHAN, Maurice Roland, Los Angeles, Calif.
HOULISTON, Floyd Goodwin, St. Paul, Minnesota
HOWERTON, Felix (n), San Antonio, Texas
HOYT, Ovide Edgar, Vancouver, Washington
JARNIGAN, Odie Felton, Nashville, Tennessee
JENKINS, Marion A., Fort Worth, Texas
JOHNSON, Frank Aloysius, Chicago, Illinois
JOHNSON, James Morris, Chicago, Illinois
JOHNSON, Oliver Howe, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
JONES, Douglas (n), Dixon, Illinois
JONES, Milton Kirkwood, Detroit, Michigan
JOPLIN, Harris, Jr., Dallas, Texas
KALMBACH, George Chris, Legrande, Oregon
KAPP, Edwin Andrew, St. Louis, Missouri
KAUTZMANN, John Joseph, St. Louis, Missouri
KELLINGHAUS, H. F., Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio
KERASIOTIS, Angelo (n), Chicago, Illinois
KIRCHGESLER, Joseph Paul, Portland, Oregon
KOTCHER, Edward Richard, Westville, Illinois
KRALL, Paul John, Honesdale, Penna.
KUSCH, John Frederick, New York, New York
LAMBORNE, Stanley Alan, Philadelphia, Penna.
LANG, Joseph (n), Cincinnati, Ohio
LANGNES, Ingvald Bernard, Chicago, Illinois
LANKFORD, Dwight Hillis, York Co., Pennsylvania
LANZA, Dante (n), Revere, Massachusetts
LAROSS, Joseph Francis, Lewistown, Penna.
LAW, Abram Charles, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
LAWDERMILK, Graham Woodrow, San Angelo, Texas
LAZA, Raymond LeRoy, Owosso, Michigan
LEE, Keith Leroy, Jackson, Michigan
LEITNER, Robert M., St. Paul, Minnesota
*LESIUK, William (n), Philadelphia, Penna.
LEVY, Sidney (n), Brooklyn, New York
LEWIS, George Orlanda, Hollywood, Calif.
LITHGOW, David Douglas, San Francisco, Calif.
LITTLE, Lloyd Donald, Boise, Idaho
LOFTUS, John Joseph, Washington, D. C.
LOUGHLIN, James Thomas, Worcester, Massachusetts
LOWMAN, Harold William, Wenatchee, Washington
LUNDE, Charles Stewart, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
MACDONALD, James Henry, Las Vegas, Nevada
MACKENZIE, William Robert, Quincy, Mass.
MACLEOD, Henry Warren, Baltimore, Maryland
MALIA, John Leo, Brighton, Mass.
MARET, Alton M., Richmond, Virginia
MASTERS, Thomas Schuyler, Omaha, Nebraska
MATTIS, Edward Harry, Lakewood, New Jersey
MAZZA, Joseph John, Brooklyn, New York
McAWEENEY, Kenneth Patrick, Oakland, Calif.

Name and Place of Acceptance for Enlistment

McCARTER, William (n), Asheville, North Carolina
McCULLOUGH, "J" "C," Tusculumbia, Alabama
McDONALD, William Woodrow, Raleigh, North Carolina
McGOVERN, Patrick Francis, Chicago, Illinois
*McKAY, John Easton, Henryette, Oklahoma
McKENNA, Edward Leo, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
McMULLIN, Harry (n), Philadelphia, Penna.
MEACHEM, Edward Joseph, New York, New York
MENDOLA, Charles Francis, New York, New York
MERWIN, George Byers, Bronx, New York
MILKER, Edmund Walter, Fargo, North Dakota
MILLER, Evan Lewis W., Los Angeles, Calif.
MINARD, Clyde Parker, Washington, D. C.
MISENHIMER, Homer M., Houston, Texas
MITCHEL, Paul Delmar, Grand Junction, Colorado
MITCHELL, Harry Lee, Sr., Tampa, Florida
MITCHELL, Raymond Wilton, Baltimore, Maryland
MITCHELL, Walter Elwood, Tampa, Florida
MOFFATT, Ollie Lex, Fayetteville, Tennessee
MORAN, Frank Brendan, Brooklyn, New York
MORRISEY, Allan Edward, Weymouth, Mass.
MOSES, Harry Kaye, Providence, Rhode Island
MOSS, Richard Woodson, Wollaston, Massachusetts
MOTSCHMAN, Harry (n), Anchorage, Alaska
MUIR, Frank Campbell, Joliet, Illinois
MUNKHOLM, Paul Herman, St. Paul, Minnesota
MURFIN, Charles Arthur, Cambridge City, Indiana
MURRAY, John William, Bronx, New York
MYERS, Edward R., Seattle, Washington
NAPPER, Chester Aleiph, Dallas, Texas
NASH, Earl Victor, Chicago, Illinois
NASH, "J" "B" Moulton, Corpus Christi, Texas
NEDEAU, Frederick James
NEEL, Frank (n), Spokane, Washington
NELSON, William Joseph, Chicago, Illinois
NORTHROP, Frank Braman, Portland, Maine
NUOZZO, Michael (n), Lawrence, Mass.
O'KEEFE, David John, Chicago, Illinois
OUTMAN, Howard Allen, Coudersport, Pennsylvania
PALUMBO, Alexander (n), Coney Island, New York
PARRISH, Halden Gaylord, Phoenix, Arizona
PARTEN, "G" "W," Groesbeck, Texas
PASQUALE, John Nunzio, Newark, New Jersey
PATTERSON, William Emmet, Grand Rapids, Michigan
PEAPOS, Theodore R., Baltimore, Maryland
PEEL, William Taylor, San Angelo, Texas
PEPPERELL, Edward Charles, Detroit, Michigan
PERKINS, James Carson, Linden, Texas
PLANK, Eli McKinley, Ottumwa, Iowa
PLESKONKO, Stanley Eugene, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania
POISMAN, Joseph Alexander, Howell, Michigan
POWELL, Herbert Joseph, Roswell, New Mexico
PRITCHARD, Francis Marion, Covington, Indiana
QUICK, Richard Vernon, Richmond Hill, New York
RACHLIN, Nathan (n), Coney Island, New York
RAINEY, William Norman, Minneapolis, Minnesota
RAY, Warren Leslie, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
RAYSSES, Nickolas M., Gary, Indiana
REED, Lloyd Ellsworth, Windber, Pennsylvania
REID, Julius Thornton, Houston, Texas
RENAUD, Roland Alfred, Providence, Rhode Island
RHODES, Arlie Lee, Charleston, West Virginia
RIGNEY, Elza Samuel, Richmond, Virginia
RITTER, Arthur Jacob, Brooklyn, New York
ROBBERSON, Ernest B., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
ROBERTS, Clarence Joseph, Johnson City, Tennessee
ROBERTS, William Ellis, Austin, Texas
ROGERS, Lewis Townsend, Thomaston, Georgia
ROGOSKAS, Alex. A., Wilmington, Delaware

Name and Place of Acceptance for Enlistment

ROSEN, Elias (n), New York, New York
ROSENLOF, Walter Arnold, Provo, Utah
RUFENER, James Henry, Boston, Massachusetts
SABOL, John Joseph, Monessen, Pennsylvania
SAWYER, Kenneth Albert, Harlingen, Texas
SCHAEFER, Ben Trueman, Alexandria, Indiana
SCHENEWERK, Frank Raymond, Chicago, Illinois
SCHIMMEL, Morton (n), Brooklyn, New York
SCHLEGEL, Joseph Dudley, Hollywood, California
SCHMIDT, Donald Boi, Seattle, Washington
SCHULTZ, George Junior, Los Angeles, California
SCHULTZ, Julius LaVerne, Shiawassee Co., Owosso, Mich.
SHENKER, Martin (n), Miami, Florida
SHMOLDAS, Richard Joseph, Crockett, Texas
SHOPP, Albert William, Trenton, New Jersey
*SHREDOW, Robert Paul, Jackson, Michigan
SIMMERMAN, Kenneth Bertram, Glassboro, New Jersey
SLOVER, James Russell, Houston, Texas
SMILEY, Marion Franklin, Salina, Kansas
*SMITH, Anderson Best, Houston, Missouri
SMITH, John Charles, Minneapolis, Minnesota
SNOW, Parm Yarbor, Houston, Texas
SNYDER, James Cecil, Chicago, Illinois
SNYDER, Richard Thomas, York County, Pennsylvania
SPRINGS, Robert Lee, Herrin, Illinois
STACY, Lloyd Charles, Seattle, Washington
STEINHARDT, Jack Jesse, Louisiana
STENBORG, Walter A., New York, New York
STEPHENSON, Frank DeWitte, Los Angeles, California
STONE, Harold Fouse, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
STROUD, Ervin Daril, Lubbock, Texas
STUNSON, Billy Gordon, Chicago, Illinois
TAFELSKI, Richard Joseph, Chicago, Illinois
TATE, Paul J., Fort Smith, Arkansas
TAYLOR, John Roland, Boston, Massachusetts
TERNES, Robert Leo, Chicago, Illinois
THOMAS, Albert Joseph, Brooklyn, New York
THOMAS, Matthew Lawrence, Detroit, Michigan
THOMPSON, Harmon Arthur, Denver, Colorado
TIFT, Gerald F., Providence, Rhode Island
TIMMS, Irving Thomas, Sr., Tampa, Florida
TOMME, Marion Leali, Little Rock, Arkansas
TORGERSON, James Valdamar, Renton, Washington
TOWLEY, Harold Ferdinand, Des Moines, Iowa
TRIMMELL, Thornton Charley, Wichita, Kansas
TROWBRIDGE, Charles Edw., Ozone Park, New York
VALIN, Sigurd Rhenold, New Haven, Connecticut
VARNEY, Henry Holland, Springfield, Massachusetts
VOIGT, Herman Michael, Dallas, Texas
VORHOLT, Alphonse B., St. Louis, Missouri
WADDELL, Jesse Weldon, Culver City, California
WAID, Frank Marion, San Antonio, Texas
WALLACE, John Richard, Revere, Massachusetts
WALSH, Edwin John, Chicago, Illinois
WATSON, Walter Ferriel, Norfolk, Virginia
WEED, Edwin Doyal, Charleston, South Carolina
WHEELER, Wm. Joseph, Baltimore, Maryland
WIDER, William John, San Francisco, California
WILKINS, Charles Herman, Corpus Christi, Texas
WILLIAMS, Robert Milton, Washington, D. C.
WILLMS, John (n), Minneapolis, Minnesota
WILSON, Herbert Olin, Shreveport, Louisiana
WOLF, Woodrow Wilson, Los Angeles, California
WOODSON, Walter Clark, Burbank, California
WRIGHT, Wilburn (n), Tampa, Florida
YENTZ, Melvin Alfred, Appleton, Wisconsin
YOUNG, Ronald Warren, Stockton, California
ZIMMERMAN, Robert Theo, Jackson, Michigan

*Deceased

IN CONCLUSION . . .

A CLOSING MESSAGE FROM THE SKIPPER

IN the foregoing pages you have seen a pictorial history of your life from the time you were assigned to the 91st Battalion through your two years overseas and includes the celebrating of V-J Day and ends with the celebration of 2nd year of overseas service. As I leaf through this book I experience a feeling of deep pride, not only in your achievements in the construction field, but in the excellent manner in which you have conducted yourselves during your leisure hours. The athletic teams of the battalion have reflected the enthusiasm and courage you have shown in your daily work. Your military bearing, your excellent conduct records and the neat, orderly appearance of your camps have all helped to make this an outstanding battalion in the Seabees.

There are some matters of special interest that deserve mention before we close this book. You men came to the battalion from 46 different states, the average ages was 30 and the ages range from twenty to fifty years and you represent the many different creeds and racial backgrounds. Yet you have worked side by side with but a single purpose—to help make a better world in which people regardless of creed and race can live together in harmony.

Few of you realize the vast amount of construction work you have completed in the past two years. If all your docks, roads, bridges, buildings and other structures were evaluated, the total volume of construction would run in the neighborhood of 10 million dollars. This is in addition to the cost of building and operating your own camps in New Guinea and the Philippines.

Looking at the record, yours is a job "Well Done." Your work has been praised by the Commanding Officer of every Naval Base you have helped to build. Letters of commendation have been received from Commodore Angus, Captain Bumpus, Captain Robinson, Commander Herd, Commander Nealon and other high ranking naval officers. Furthermore, your athletic teams and your famous string band with its entertainers have received high praise from Rear Admiral Berkey, Commanding Officer of the 7th Fleet Cruiser Division, Captain Roberts of the USS Boise, Comdr. Gene Tunney, Comdr. Eddie Peabody, and many other officers of ships, hospitals and naval stations.

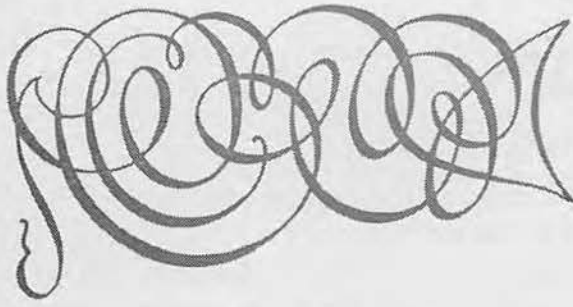
The sentiment of brotherhood in this battalion is best told by the following story. One of our boys dropped a hint to one of his buddies about troubles at home. His wife who was taking care of his four small children became seriously ill and had to be hospitalized. Medical bills piled up rapidly while funds were running low. Not long afterwards I received a letter from this man's wife in which she told of receiving money orders amounting to over six hundred dollars from the boys of this battalion. She just couldn't find words to express her gratitude. This same grand gang of fellows never missed an opportunity to help their buddies who had met with misfortune.

Several other comments are also in order. Your patriotic spirit carried you up among the leaders in all war bond drives during the past two years. In the weekly hut inspections, you have shown pride in your jungle quarters by converting them into real homes in your spare time. Some of them are works of art. Your weekly paper, "Tropical Topics," is an outstanding publication, thanks to the editor and his fine staff.

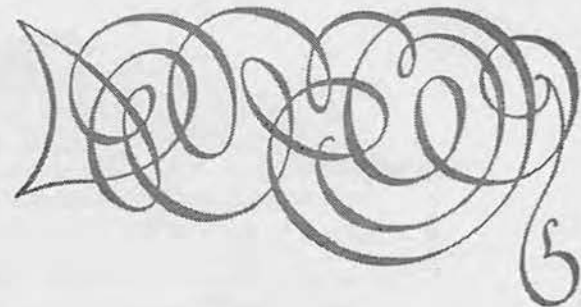
You have earned the right to wear the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one bronze star. I congratulate you all and wish you success in your future endeavors.

In closing I know you all join me in thanking Lt. (jg) Joe Burns, Editor of this book, for his untiring efforts. In turn Joe will want to share the credit with his hard-working assistant, Bill Stout, also with Chiefs Bilyeu and Upton who contributed the cartoons and title pages and with Lou Banzen for his excellent photography. "Well Done," boys.

L. F. HEWETT, *Comdr., U.S.N.R.*



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