

79th Naval Construction Battalion

*Historical
Information*



*“Construimus, Batuimus”
“We Build, We Fight”*



79th C.B.2nd Embarkation

NCTC	- Norfolk	NCTC	- (Parks)
ABD	- Gfpt. FFT Hueneme	ABD	- (Parks)
Ready Date	- 14 Apr'43	Ready Date	- 2/1/45
Left ABD	- 3 May'43	Left ABD	- 31 Jan'45
Location	- Alsec - NOB Kodiak	Amchitka Cold Bay Location	- Saipan Okinawa

LOG

- 3-23-43 - Moving to Hueneme from Gulfport 28 Mar FFT Seattle for Alsec.
5- 3-43 - 79th CB departed for Alsec.
7- 1-43 - 79th CB is at Kodiak. (Com 13 to ComAlSec dtd 6-21-43 Sec. Disp)
7- 3-43 - 79th CB assigned to Maintenance Kodiak. (Conf. Disp. VCNO to ComAlSec 292222)
7-15-43 - 1 Jun'43 report of 79th CB - Arrived Kodiak 10 May'43, sailing from Seattle 6 May
8-13-43 - 1 Jul'43 report of 79th CB - Reported at Kodiak 2 Jul'43 as a maintenance Batt.
2-25-44 - 79th CB located at Kodiak with 1 off. and 28 men at Cold Bay. (Alaskan Sector data sheet dtd 1 Feb'44)
3-16-44 - 1 Mar'44 report of 1st Brig - 79th CB located at Kodiak.
3-31-44 - 15 Mar'44 report of 1st Brig - 79th CB located at Kodiak with 1 off. and 28 men at Cold Bay. 1/4 Batt scheduled Amchitka FAT.
4-13-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 1st Brig - 79th CB located at Kodiak and Amchitka with 1 off. and 28 men at Cold Bay.
5-12-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 79th CB - located at Kodiak and 6th Reg. (Amchitka), also a detachment of 32 men at Cold Bay.

79th C.B.

- 6- 1-44 - 1 May'44 report of 79th CB - operating at Kodiak, Amchitka and Cold Bay.
7- 6-44 - 1 Jun'44 report of 79th CB - operating at Kodiak and Cold Bay.
8-15-44 - 1 Jul'44 report of 79th CB - 31 men at Cold Bay, 252 men with 6th Reg. Detachment (Amchitka) and 774 men at Kodiak.
8-22-44 - According to Ens. Slappey (Op-30) the 79th CB is due to return from Alaska on or about 15 Aug'44.
9- 7-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of 79th CB - 31 men at Cold Bay, 251 men with 6th Reg. at Amchitka and 773 men at Kodiak.
9-15-44 - 1/2 of 79th CB (11 off. and 503 men) arrived Parks 9 Sep'44 from overseas via San Fran. (Parks 11TWX2355Sep44 to Budocks)
9-26-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 79th CB - operating at Kodiak with a detachment of 27 men at Cold Bay and 240 men with the 6th Reg.
10-18-44 - The 2nd Ech. of the 79th CB/17 off. & 542 men/ arrived Parks from overseas 11 Oct'44. (Parks 12TWX2041OCT44 to Budocks).
12-14-44 - From the Chronological History of 1st Brigade -
10 May'43 - 79th CB arrived Kodiak from U.S.
27 Mar'44 - 5 Off. & 251 men left Kodiak for Amchitka.
9 Sep'44 - One-half 79th CB left for U.S.
(Com 17 Sec. ltr ND17/A12-1/L7 over 50/2b over Ser 0096 to Budocks dtd 6 Nov'44)
12-16-44 - Training use of bridges proposed Cincpoa's Disp. 072356 approved - recommend that the 79th CB be substituted for the 27th CB. (CNO Sec. Disp. to Cincpoa 132003 dtd 14 Dec'44)
1-4-45 -- Pers-10121A-CEC/lm Memo to Enlisted Distr. Div. dtd 21 Dec'44 requests that the 37 men of CBD 3050 be detached and transferred to the 79th CB about 27 Dec'44.

79th CB

- 1-12-45 - The 79th CB is assigned to Cincpoa - given Jan'45 priority for Saipan shipment. Parks requested to make 79th ready by 1 Feb'45 - must depart from Parks before 2 Feb'45. (CNO Sec. disp to Parks and ComwesSeaFron 081945 dtd 9 Jan'45).
- 1-17-45 - The 79th CB is assigned to Cincpoa to go to Saipan for duty pending further transfer to final destination. (CNO Sec. ltr Op30-2CK14-UOT/rc over (SC)P16-5 over Ser. 0013930 to Budocks, Busanda and Parks dtd 11 Jan'45).
- 1-17-45 - The 79th CB is scheduled to ship ETD 27 Jan'45. (Com 12 Sec. disp to Cincpoa 130056 dtd 13 Jan'45).
- 1-30-45 - The 79th CB is scheduled for BIVE. CNO suggest they stage at Saipan. (CNO Sec. disp to Cincpoa 181821 dtd 18 Jan'45).
- 1-30-45 - The 79th CB will leave the West Coast for Saipan. (Comservpac Sec. disp to CNO 212311 dtd 22 Jan'45).
- 2- 9-45 - The 79th CB left U.S. 31 Jan'45 with 27 officers and 1060 men. (Parks Sec Disp to Bupers 020015 dtd 2 Feb'45)
- 2- 9-45 - CAPE BON departed 2 Feb'45 routed PRAY and HODE - 79th CB destined to HODE with 23 officers and 1054 men. (Com12 Sec Disp to Com14 and Cincpoa 032034 dtd 4 Feb'45)
- 3-8-45 - According to Dirpadocks San Fran 15 Feb'45 report the 79th CB is located at Saipan.
- 4-6-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of 87th CB - Ship carrying persnrl of 79th CBs arrvd 26 Feb'45 at Saipan.
- 4-14-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 79th CB - Batt departed States 31 Jan'45 and arrived Saipan Staging Area on 26 Feb'45.
- 5- 8-45 - The 79th CB is located at Saipan. Assigned Okinawa. (Dirpadocks S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr'45)

Location - ~~Saipan~~ Okinawa79th C.B.

- 5-19-45 - CD 2636, 2 off. and 10 men, departed for overseas 11 Apr'45 for duty with the 79th CB. (Hueneme TWX 170214 May'45 to Bupers)
- 6-21-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 79th CB - A, C, D Cos plus part of Hdqtrs Co, comprising 727 men and 21 off., left Saipan 18 April and arrived Okinawa 30 April. B Co and remainder of Hdqtrs Co, comprising 318 men and 5 off., remained at Saipan. CD2636 2 off. and 10 men, left behind at Hueneme for loading rotary well-drilling equip have not caught up with the batt. A group of 16 men and 1 off. continued working under the Civil Affairs adm at Saipan. The 79th CB departed the States 31 Jan'45 and arrived at Saipan staging area on 26 Feb'45. Report via 45th Reg and 11th Brg
- 6-25-45 - OinC of 79th CB with off and men in his chge reported to CCT IsCom APO 331 on 1 May'45. Further assigned to the 45th Reg. of the 11th Brg. (Hdqtrs CCT IsCom APO 331 conf orders ser 087 dtd 5 June to OinC 79th CB which was also 2nd end to CBRD ltr dtd 31 Jan'45)
- 7- 2-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 79th CB - located at Okinawa. The 2nd echelon, consisting of 5 off. and 314 men, departed Saipan 7 May and arrived Okinawa on 15 May. The 2 off. and 10 men who were left behind at Huaneme to load well-drilling equip departed Hueneme 11 April and arrived at Okinawa on 25 May. Report via 45th Reg and 11th Brg.
- 7-23-45 - The 79th CB is assigned to the 11th Brg and 46th Reg effective 10 July. (CCT APO 331 sec report on assignment of CB units ser 897 dtd 10 JULY)
- 8-3-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 79th CB - located at Okinawa. 60 men will be transferred to the U.S. for discharge commencing 1 Jul'45. Report via 45th Reg & 11th Brig.
- 8-24-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 79th CB - located at Okinawa. Report via the 45th Reg and 11th Brg.

Location - Okinawa

79th CB

- 10-24-45 - 1 Sept '45 report of 79th CB - located at Okinawa. Report via 45th Reg. & 11th Brg. 114 men transferred to U.S. for discharge under the point system. 274 men rec'd from 20th CB.
- 10-30-45 - The following units are transferred from the 45th Reg. to 39th Reg. effective as of 28 Sept '45: - 15, 36, 79 CBs & CBMU 523. (CNOB, Okinawa conf ltr ser 0596 dtd 6 Oct '45 to 11th Brg).
- 11-1-45 - CNOB, Okinawa requests authority to inactivate 79th CB. (CNOB, Okinawa conf disp 261516 Oct '45 to Comservpac).
- 11-2-45 - 1 Oct '45 report of 79th CB - located at Okinawa. Report via 39th Reg. & 11th Brg. 59 men transferred to U.S. for over-age discharges, 117 men transferred to U.S. for discharge under the point system.
- 11-19-45 - Comservpac approves inactivation of 79th CB. Advise Comservpac when inactivation is completed. (Comservpac ltr ser 5722 dtd 5 Nov '45 to CNOB, Okinawa).
- 12-27-45 - 79th CB was inactivated 30 Nov '45. (OinC, 79th CB ltr dtd 30 Nov '45 to Comservpac)

INACTIVATION

79th C. B. (maint.)

DECLASSIFIED

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
6/3/44	-	Kodiak, Amchitka	1730 Conf serial 01174430	Left U.S. May 1943. to be returned to U.S.
9/18	-	1/2 US. (Camp Parks)	28 July. CNO sec disp	Returned from Alaska Sept.
10/11	-	1/2 at Camp Parks	141942 Sept Burdick memo 10/2.	Returned U.S. 9/9. Examined by Cincpac.
10/20	-	Camp Parks	Burdick memo 10/14	1st ech. returned 28 9/9 - Examined Cincpac 2nd ech. returned 28 10/11. Examined Cincpac
12/29	-	Camp Parks	Burdick memo 23 December. CNO ser 132002 d.c. - 0490 sec 01174430 26 Dec	Ready at Parks 2/1/45 - Acid Linegrow Substituted for CB 27 Serial 01174430

79th C. B. (Main.) Page 2.

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
1/17	-	Parks	Bufiles memo 1/13.	Bine (Bufiles memo 1/13) ready Parks 2/1 Jan priority - assid Saipan.
1/17	-	-	Cno sec disp 081945 Jan.	"
1/22	-	"	15190	assid Bine.
2/2	Report	code (Bine)	Shelmaker cal	assid Bine - ready 2/1/45 Parks - assid Jan priority.
3/5	Mar. report	code added - HODE	sec 020015 Feb.	departed for overseas 31 Jan.

79th C. B. (Main.) Page 3.

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
6/4	-	-	Saipan sec act disp. 0306012 June.	delete HODE.

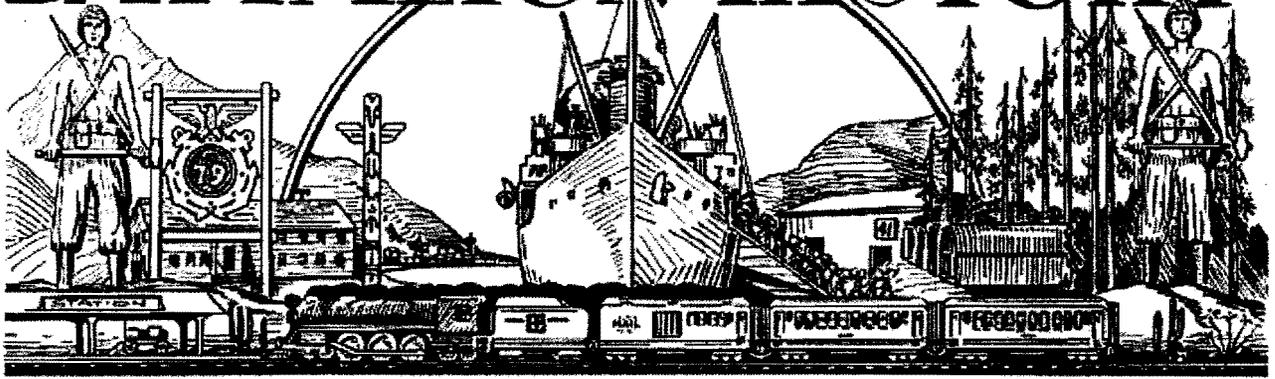
Any report shows Bine

ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
30 Jun '44	27	1057	Recap.
1 Aug '44	27	1055	MoR
1 Sep '44	28	1049	MoR
31 Dec '44		925	Recap.
1 Feb '45		1066	BNP625
1 Mar '45		1066	BNP625
1 Apr '45	27	1062	MoR
1 May '45		1058	BNP625
1 Jun '45	28	1052	BNP625 & R
1 Jul '45	30	1057	BNP625 & R
1 Aug '45		1009	BNP625
1 Sept '45		875	BNP625
1 Oct '45	24	815	
		319 Trans.	BNP625 & R
1 Nov '45	21	677	BNP625 & R

79th Construction Battalion (Maint) (INACTIVE)

BATTALION HISTORY



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

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

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

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

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

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





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

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

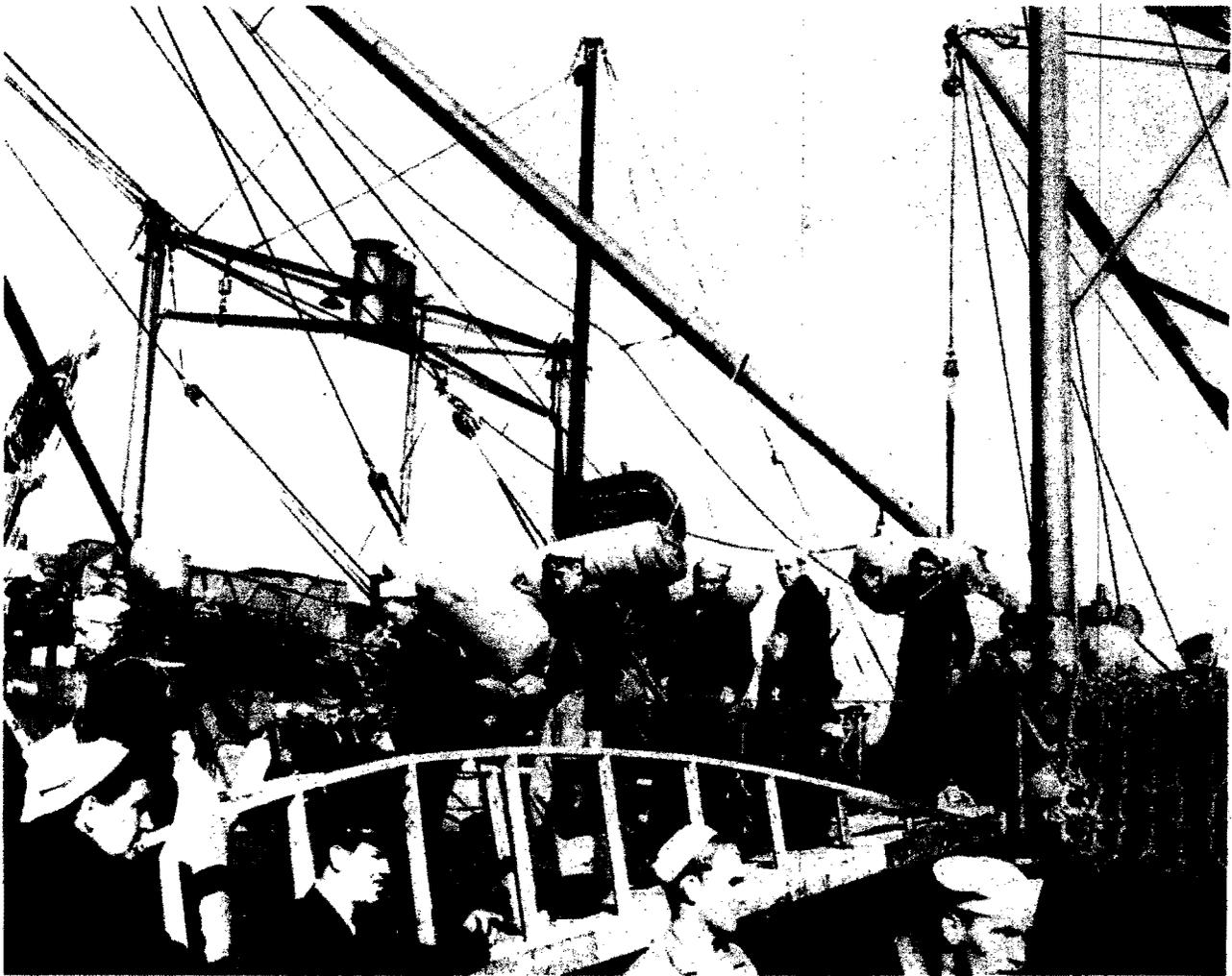
★ None of us knew what to expect, and what a surprise it was to discover that our assignment meant to be stationed at a modern advance base equipped with many conveniences. It didn't take long for the news to spread that a small town was just a stone's throw from the base. The village is crudely constructed,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

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

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

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

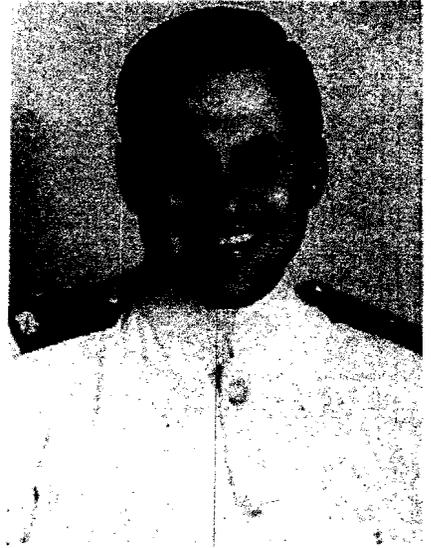
★ Space and security do not permit a complete review of this battalion's activities. Much work has been done and the record speaks for itself. Every man in this unit typifies America at its best. The men come from all parts of the country but have welded themselves into an organization with a common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



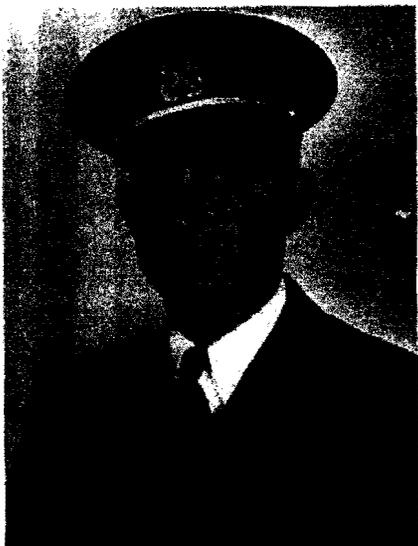
The 79th disembarking May 10, 1943 on "ISLAND X."



Lieut. D. J. Pipal



Lt. (jg) G. C. Thomas



Ensign H. A. Hart

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

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

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

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



Lt. (jg) W. R. Kramer



Lieut. W. W. Blake

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

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

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

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



Ensign P. L. Baffes



Lt. (jg) R. W. Dean



Lieut. S. J. Boyle



Ensign W. W. Cooper

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

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



Lieut. S. Canonico



Lieut. W. W. Shoemaker

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

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

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



Lt. (jg) F. A. Dieter



Warrant Officer E. J. Haberacker

79th Naval Construction Battalion

Chronology

First Tour of Duty

01 Feb 1943	Formed at NCTC, Norfolk, Va.
10 Mar 1943	Departed NCTC, Norfolk, Va.
13 Mar 1943	Arrived ABD, Gulfport, Miss.
30 Mar 1943	Departed ABD, Gulfport, Miss.
02 Apr 1943	Arrived ABD, Port Hueneme, California.
02 May 1943	Departed ABD, Port Hueneme, California.
04 May 1943	Arrived Seattle, Washington.
06 May 1943	Sailed from Seattle for Alsec.
10 May 1943	Arrived Kodiak, Alaska.
18 Nov 1943	1 Officer and 28 men departed for Cold Bay, Alaska.
19 Mar 1944	5 Officers and 251 men departed Kodiak for Amchitka. This detachment operated in Adak and Amchitka until their departure for the U.S. on 2 Sept 1944.
02 Sept 1944	1 st Echelon of 11 officers and 503 men departed Kodiak, Alaska for the U.S.
09 Sept 1944	1 st Echelon arrived CBRD, Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California.
15 Sept 1944	Cold Bay Detachment returned to Kodiak, Alaska.
04 Oct 1944	2 nd Echelon of 17 Officers and 542 men departed Kodiak, Alaska for the U.S.
11 Oct 1944	2 nd Echelon arrived CBRD, Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California.

Second Tour of Duty

31 Jan 1945	Departed CBRD, Camp Parks, for overseas.
26 Feb 1945	Arrived at Saipan, M.I.
21 Apr 1945	1 st Echelon of 21 Officers and 727 men departed from Saipan for Okinawa.
30 Apr 1945	1 st Echelon arrived at Okinawa Jima, Ryukyu Retto.
06 May 1945	2 nd Echelon of 5 Officers and 318 men departed from Saipan for Okinawa.
15 May 1945	2 nd Echelon arrived at Okinawa Jima, Ryukyu Retto.
05 Jun 1945	Still located at Okinawa Jima, Ryukyu Retto.

ITINERARY OF THE 79TH U.S.N. CONSTR. BATTALION

1ST TOUR OF DUTY:

- 1 Feb 1943 - Formed at NCTC, Norfolk, Va.,
- 10 Mar 1943 - Departed NCTC, Norfolk, Va.,
- 13 Mar 1943 - Arrived ABD, Gulfport, Miss.
- 30 Mar 1943 - Departed ABD, Gulfport, Miss.
- 2 Apr 1943 - Arrived ABD, Port Hueneme, California.
- 2 May 1943 - Departed ABD, Port Hueneme, California.
- 4 May 1943 - Arrived Seattle, Washington.
- 6 May 1943 - Sailed from Seattle for Alsec.
- 10 May 1943 - Arrived Kodiak, Alaska.
- 18 Nov 1943 - 1 Officer and 28 men departed for Cold Bay, Alaska.
- 19 Mar 1944 - 5 Officers and 251 men departed Kodiak for Uchitka. This detachment operated in Adak and Aniak until their departure for the U.S. on 2 Sept 1944.
- 2 Sep 1944 - 1ST Echelon of 11 Officers and 505 men departed Kodiak, Alaska for the U.S.
- 9 Sep 1944 - 1ST Echelon arrived OBRD, Camp Parks, Shoemaker, Cal.
- 15 Sep 1944 - Cold Bay Detachment returned to Kodiak, Alaska.
- 4 Oct 1944 - 2ND Echelon of 17 Officers and 542 men departed Kodiak, Alaska for the U.S.
- 11 Oct 1944 - 2ND Echelon arrived OBRD, Camp Parks, Shoemaker, Cal.

2ND TOUR OF DUTY:

- 31 Jan 1945 - Departed OBRD, Camp Parks, for overseas.
- 26 Feb 1945 - Arrived at Saipan, M.I.

To: Records
 Administration Building
 Camp Parks, California
 Attention: Personnel Section

RECORDED

John S. [Name]
 [Title]
 Signature

CONFIDENTIAL

ITINERARY OF THE 79TH U.S.N. CONSTR. BATTALION (Cont'd.)

2ND TOUR OF DUTY: (Cont'd.)

- 21 Apr 1945 - 1ST Echelon of 21 Officers and 727 men departed from Saipan for Okinawa.
- 30 Apr 1945 - 1ST Echelon arrived at Okinawa Jima, Ryukyu Retto.
- 6 May 1945 - 2ND Echelon of 5 Officers and 518 men departed from Saipan for Okinawa.
- 15 May 1945 - 2ND Echelon arrived at Okinawa Jima, Ryukyu Retto.
- 5 Jun 1945 - Still located at Okinawa Jima, Ryukyu Retto.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY:

V. A. Vollmer
V.A. VOLLMER, Lieut. Comdr., CGC USNR.
Executive Officer - 79th USNCS.

To Facilitate
Administrative Review
Classification change
from

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
LTC E. B. BROWN
Comdr. USNCS
Signature



79TH
CONSTRUCTION BATTALION
USN







