

80th Naval Construction Battalion

*Historical
Information*



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



80 c/o

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Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
1/26	-	218	Cincpoa Sec.	request be
1/30	-	"	250121 Jan. CNO conf. 29/535 Jan.	Asid, 7th Brg. will be asid 7th Brg - 250121. 22-18/805 - ready date changed to 15 Feb.
2/3	-	"	Budocks memo 2/3/45. also 02030 Ser. 3639230 of 3 Feb.	Ready Hueneme 2/1. Probable Jan shpp and Klad.
3/21	-	"	Budocks memo 2/15/45.	Probable March shpp?
4/23	-	(Biue)	Comservpac sec 132333 Mar.	Request earliest possible April shpp - Klad.
4/30	-	(Yesi)	Cincpoa Pearl sec. 210229 April	Request action be taken transfer Biue
4/30	-	(Yesi)	Cincpoa Pearl sec. 281913 April	Request change dest from Samar to Yesi.

80th C.B.

1st Embarkation

~~NCTC - Norfolk
ABD - Gulfport
Ready Date - 16 Apr'43
Left ABD - 19 Jul'43
Location - Trinidad~~

2nd Embarkation

NCTC -
ABD - Hueneme
Ready Date - 15 Feb'45
Left ABD - 18 May'45
Location - Subic Bay

LOG

- 3- 8-43 - 80th CB with approx 26 off. and 1081 men to be transferred from Norfolk to Gulfport on 12 Mar'43. (Budocks ltr to CNO)
- 11- 8-43 - 1 Oct'43 report of 80th CB - Departed 19 Jul'43 and arrived destination 3 Aug'43.
- 5- 5-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 80th CB - operating at Trinidad. According to the 11th Reg. report for 1 Apr'44, the 80th CB is scheduled to leave 15 Apr'44 by orders of CNO.
- 5-19-44 - 80th CB arrived from overseas at NCTC Davisville 13 May'44 with 29 off. and 887 men (18FWX0900 May'44 from Davisville)
- 1-30-45 - The 80th CB will be available from Hueneme 1 Feb'45 for assignment to Samar. (CNO Sec. disp to Com7flt 181805 dtd 19 Jan'45).
- 1-30-45 - Cincpoa requests that the 34th CB be assigned to Sowsespac in lieu of the 80th CB. (Cincpoa Sec. disp to Cominch & CNO 182030 dtd 19 Jan'45).
- 1-30-45 - Cincpoa requests that the 80th CB which is assigned to Sowsespac be assigned to the 7th Brg. (Cincpoa Sec. disp to CNO 250121 dtd 25 Jan'45).
- 2-7-45 -- CNO does not approve Cincpoa Sec. disp 182030 (requesting assignment of 34th CB to Sowsespac in lieu of the 80th CB). (CNO conf. disp to Cincpoa 201417 dtd 21 Jan'45).
- 2-7-45 -- The 80th CB will be assigned to the 7th Brg. Will be ready 15 Feb'45. (CNO conf. disp to Comservpac, Cincpoa and Com7flt 291535 dtd 29 Jan'45).

Location - Subic Bay

80th CB

- 2-13-45 - The 80th CB assigned to Samar. (CNO Sec. ltr to distribution list Ser. 0039230 dtd 3 Feb '45).
- 3-13-45 - No ships allocated in Mar'45 for the lifting of the 11th, 35th, 68th or 80th CB's. (ComWestSeaFron Sec. disp to Comserpac 110038 Mar'45).
- 3-16-45 - Comservpac requests earliest possible April shipping of the 11th, 35th, 68th, and 80th CBs to Samar. (Comservpac Sec Disp 132333 dtd 14 Mar'45 to Comserv7flt)
- 4-30-45 - Comserfor7flt Sec Rep of 1 Apr'45 shows the 80th CB ordered from U.S. to Leyte-Sama
- 5- 2-45 - Personnel for the 80th CB will be lifted WTD Hueneme WTR 9 May'45. (ComWesSeaFron Sec Disp 260120 dtd 26 Apr to Cincpoa P)
- 5- 8-45 - The 80th CB has been assigned 7th Brg in Leyte-Samar area. (Dirpadocks S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr'45)
- 5-15-45 - Subic is confirmed as destination of the 11th, 35th, and 80th CBs. (GHQ SWPA Sec Disp 031308Z dtd 10 May to Cincpoa P)
- 5-16-45 - WM T COLEMAN loaded with equipment of 35th and 80th CBs due Eniwetok 19 May for onward routing to Okinawa. Destination these units has been changed to Subic Bay. (Cincpoa P Sec disp 090134 dtd 9 May to PD Eniwetok)
- 5-19-45 - Lift CBs 11, 35, and 80 to Subic Bay. My 302115 and CNO ser 0039230 of 2 Feb modified. (Cominch sec disp 123102 dtd 13 May to Comwesseafron)
- 5-23-45 - 80th CB departed 18 May'45 with 18 off. and 1025 men for overseas. (Hueneme conf disp 192118 May'45 to Bums)
- 7-24-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 24th Reg states that the 80th CB has arrived at Subic Bay and is setting up temp camp. The 80th CB is to be assigned to the Hospital and Receiving Barracks.
- 7-27-45 - The 80th CB is located at Subic Bay constructing Rec Barracks and Hosp. Attached to 24th Reg and 3rd Brg. (CCT 7th Flt Sec Rep for June)

Location - Subic Bay

80th CB

- 8-18-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 3rd Brig states that the 80th CB has recently arrived in the CCT 7th Flt area and has been assigned the construction of the Receiving Station Panocan Point and other construction work at Nagcuban Point, Grande Island and Olongapo. The 80th CB is attached to the 24th Reg & 3rd Brig.
- 8-20-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 80th CB - located at Subic Bay. Batt departed Hueneme on 18 May and arrived Subic Bay 14 June'45. Report via 24th Reg and 3rd Brg.
- 8-22-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 24th Reg states that on 18 May'45 18 officers and 1025 men of the 80th CB departed from Port Hueneme and Arrived at Subic Bay on 18 Jun'45. The 80th CB is attached to the 24th Reg.
- 8-22-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 80th CB - located at Subic Bay. Departed Port Hueneme on 18 May'45 with 18 officers and 1025 men and arrived at Subic Bay on 27 Jun'45. Report via 24th Reg and 3rd Brig.
- 8-30-45 - 80th CB at Subic Bay - propose to inactivate. (Dirpadocks, P. sec report of 10 Aug '45).
- 10-24-45 - 80th CB inactivated 12 Sept'45. (Comphilseafron restr spltr ser 1962 dtd 7 Oct '45 to ComServPac).

INACTIVATED

ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
1 Aug'44	19	812	R & BNP625
1 Sep'44	18	792	R & BNP625
1 Oct'44		763	BNP625
1 Nov'44		988	BNP625
1 Dec'44		1041	BNP625
1 Jan'45		1041	BNP625
1 Feb'45		1067	BNP625
1 Mar'45		1052	BNP625
1 Apr'45		1042	BNP625
1 May'45	23	1116	BNP625 & R
1 Jun'45		1026	BNP625
1 Jul'45	22	1030	BNP625 & R
1 Aug'45	24	1029	BNP625 & R
1 Sept'45		942	BNP625

80th Construction Battalion (INACTIVATED)

80TH BATTALION

Formed at Norfolk, Va., Jan. 26, 1943, the 80th Battalion moved to Gulfport, Miss. March 14. Sailing from Gulfport July 19, 1943, the Battalion arrived in Trinidad Aug. 3. Returning to the States, they left Trinidad May 6, 1944, and reported at Camp Endicott May 13. A month later the unit departed for Port Hueneme and arrived there on June 18. After 11 months at Hueneme, the outfit sailed on its second overseas tour May 18, 1945, bound for Subic Bay in the Philippines. The men arrived at Subic Bay June 18 and were stationed there at war's end.

81st Naval Construction Battalion

Chronology

- 13 Feb 1943 The 81st U.S. Naval Construction Battalion was commissioned at the Naval Construction Training Center, Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Virginia.
- 10 Apr 1943 The Battalion was transferred to the Naval Construction Training Center at Davisville, Rhode Island.
- 03 Jun 1943 The 81st Battalion was transferred to the Naval Advance Base Depot at Davisville, R.I.
- 05 Jul 1943 The Battalion was split into two sections.
- 19 Aug 1943 The first section consisting of 16 officers and 516 men departed from the Naval Advance Base Depot at Davisville.
- 20 Aug 1943 The first section left the United States.
- 26 Aug 1943 The first section arrived at Rosneath, Scotland.
- 04 Sept 1943 The second section, consisting of 16 officers and 523 men, departed from the Naval Advance Base Depot at Davisville.
- 05 Sept 1943 The second section departed from the United States.
- 23 Sept 1943 The second section arrived at Rosneath, Scotland.
- 05 Oct 1943 The first and second sections were reunited under orders of the Commander in Chief of the 13th Naval Construction Regiment. This was confirmed by orders of the Bureau of Personnel on 20 November 1943.
- Oct 1943 During October the Battalion operated at Rosneath, which was its headquarters, Milford Haven and Penarth, Wales, as well as Fowey, England.
- Nov 1943 The Battalion continued to operate at Rosneath, Milford Haven, Penarth and Fowey and began operations at Bicester, Falmouth, Salcombe, St. Mawes, and Dartmouth.
- Dec 1943 Headquarters was moved to Penarth and the Battalion continued to operate at Milford Haven, Fowey, Bicester, Falmouth, Salcombe, St. Mawes, and Dartmouth.
- Jan 1944 The Battalion continued to operate at Penarth, which remained its headquarters and also Milford Haven, Fowey, Bicester, Falmouth, Salcombe, St. Mawes, and Dartmouth.
- Feb 1944 Battalion headquarters was moved to Dartmouth and the 81st continued to operate at Penarth, Milford Haven, Fowey, Falmouth, Salcombe, and St. Mawes.
- Mar 1944 The Battalion, with headquarters at Dartmouth, Penarth, Milford Haven, Fowey, Falmouth, Salcombe, and St. Mawes and began operations in Newton Abbot and Plymouth.

Apr 1944	The Battalion operated at Penarth, Milford Haven, Fowey, Falmouth, Salcombe, St. Mawes, Dartmouth, Newton Abbot, Plymouth and London. Headquarters was moved to Falmouth. During this month the detachments at Dartmouth, Fowey, St. Mawes, Newton Abbot, and Penarth were secured and the personnel transferred to Falmouth.
May 1944	The detachments at Milford haven, Plymouth, London, and Salcombe were secured and all personnel were transferred to Falmouth.
06 Jun 1944	The 81 st Battalion began operations at Utah Beach in France. One officer and 30 men departed Utah for Paris.
06 Oct 1944	The first echelon of 21 officers and 496 men departed from France.
10 Oct 1944	The first echelon arrived at Plymouth, England.
14 Oct 1944	The Paris detachment was secured and its personnel joined the second echelon for return to the U.S.
17 Oct 1944	The second echelon, consisting of 12 officers and 539 men, departed from France.
18 Oct 1944	The second echelon arrived at Teignmouth, Devon.
19 Oct 1944	The first echelon left the United Kingdom enroute to the United States.
27 Oct 1944	The second echelon left the United Kingdom for the United States.
28 Oct 1944	The first echelon arrived in the United States.
29 Oct 1944	The first echelon arrived at the naval Construction Training Center at Davisville, Rhode Island.
09 Nov 1944	The second echelon arrived in the United States.
10 Nov 1944	The second echelon arrived at the Naval Construction Training Center at Davisville.

Second Tour of Duty

22 Jan 1945	The 81 st Battalion left the Naval Construction Training Center for an overseas assignment.
30 Jan 1945	The Battalion passed through the Panama Canal.
15 Feb 1945	The Battalion arrived at Pearl harbor.
17 Mar 1945	A detachment of 3 officers and 68 men arrived at Guam.
28 Mar 1945	The Battalion boarded a ship enroute to Okinawa.
06 Apr 1945	The ship containing the 81 st Battalion dropped anchor at Eniwetok where the battalion was given practice in assault landings and recreational parties were formed.
11 Apr 1945	The Battalion left Eniwetok.
15 Apr 1945	The battalion arrived at Ulithi where they were given recreational leaves and more practice in assault landings.
26 Apr 1945	The Battalion's ship dropped anchor off Hagushi Beach, Okinawa.

02 May 1945	The Battalion departed from Hagushi Beach.
	The 81 st Battalion arrived off Nakagusuki Wan, Okinawa.
03 May 1945	The Battalion disembarked and set up camp on Awase Peninsula, Okinawa.
May 1945	The Battalion operated at Hagushi Beach, Kuba Saki and Nakagusuki Wan with headquarters on the Awase Peninsula.
17 May 1945	One officer and 35 enlisted men arrived at Ie Shima.
08 Jun 1945	A detachment of 1 officer and 7 men left Hagushi for Aguni Shima.
Jun 1945	The Battalion operated at Kuba Saki, Nakagusuki Wan, Ie Shima, and Aguhi Shima. During the month the detachment at Hagushi Beach was relieved.
14 Jun 1945	Two hundred and fifty two men were returned from hagushi Beach after having been relieved by the 28 th Naval Construction Battalion.
01 Jul 1945	All 42-year-old men, of whom there were 18, were transferred to the U.S. for release to inactive duty.
30 Jul 1945	Detachment "A", with Lieutenant W.P. Larsen in command of 70 men arrived at Camp Awase from Guam.
03 Aug 1945	The Battalion reported for duty to the Commander of Amphibious Forces in the Pacific for operational control and to the 36 th Naval Construction Regiment, which had administrative control.
04 Aug 1945	The detail of one officer and 35 men returned to Camp Awase from Ie Shima where they had been serving.
08 Aug 1945	Detachment "A" of the 81 st Naval Construction Battalion with Commander Coxe in command of 40 officers and 771 men departed for Guam on the USS Niagara. The remaining men, under the command of Lieutenant Larsen moved from Camp Awase to Baten Ko.
15 Aug 1945	Hostilities with Japan cease. Detachment "A" arrived at Guam and was encamped with the 70 th and the 128 th Naval Construction Battalions.
22 Aug 1945	Nineteen men who were eligible for release to inactive duty were sent home from Okinawa.
Aug 1945	Detachment "A" worked on Guam in the Amphibious Forces Pontoon Assembly yard and on the Advance Commander Amphibious Forces in the Pacific, Marianas Camp Area. The Okinawa contingent was at work constructing a camp at Baten Ko.
08 Sept 1945	Commanders Coxe and Childs flew from Guam to Okinawa.
12 Sept 1945	The Okinawa detachment of 254 men and four officers left for Guam aboard 8 Landing ships, Men leaving one officer and seven men in Okinawa.
15 Sept 1945	Commanders Coxe and Childs returned to Guam by air.
19 Sept 1945	After a very rough trip the Okinawa detachment arrived in Guam.

21 Sept 1945	The remainder of the Okinawa contingent, one officer and seven men, left for Guam aboard an APH.
27 Sept 1945	The 81 st Battalion was reunited as the officer and seven men arrived at Guam from Okinawa.
27 Sept 1945	A party was given by the 81 st Battalion for all hands of the 81 st , 70 th and the 128 th Naval Construction Battalions and the personnel of the 36 th Naval Construction Regiment.
Sept 1945	The Battalion continued to work in the Amphibious Forces Pontoon Assembly Yard and the Advance Commander Amphibious Forces in the Pacific Marianas Camp Area. The latter job was discontinued and the Battalion began work on the Advance Commander Amphibious Forces in the Pacific Administrative Area.
02 Oct 1945	Farewell ceremonies, which featured addresses by Commanders Coxe and Chaplain Farrel, were held at the Tropicana Theatre.
05 Oct 1945	By 5 October 1945 all work in the Pontoon Assembly Yard and the Administrative Area was completed. Thirty-nine men were transferred to other battalions and a total of twelve officers were either transferred for release to inactive duty or to other battalions.
10 Oct 1945	The 81 st Naval Construction Battalion was officially inactivated in compliance with the Commander of Service Forces in the Pacific letter 05466 dated 1 October 1945 and the 5 th Naval Construction Brigade letter, serial number 011723 dated 10 October 1945. All equipment and material was disposed of and personnel were either transferred for release to inactive duty or to other Seabee units. This Battalion had been designated to participate in the assault phases of both of the operations, "Olympic" and "Coronet".



80th SEABEES









