

# 88<sup>th</sup> Naval Construction Battalion

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*Historical  
Information*



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



88th C.B.

NOTC - Davisville  
 ABD - Hueneme  
 Ready Date -  
 Left ABD - 3 Jul'43  
 Location - Cub-9 Guadalcanal Good-Time  
 Emirau ~~Leyte (1/2)~~, ~~Ulithi (1/2)~~ Leyte-Samar (Jinamoc Is)  
LOG

- 4-22-43 - 88th CB transferred to Camp Parks FTT Hueneme, by dispatch.
- 7-15-43 - 88th CB departed from Hueneme 3 Jul'43 - destination Cub 9.
- 9-13-43 - 1 Aug'43 report of 88th CB - arrived destination 19 Jul'43.
- 1-28-44 - 1 Jan'44 report of 88th CB - Expects to leave Bevy and report to Good Time during the first week in Jan'44.
- 3- 8-44 - 1 Feb'44 report of 88th CB - Left Guadalcanal in 3 echelons - 3 Jan, 13 Jan, and 18 Jan'44 arriving at Good Time 5 Jan, 15 Jan, and 20 Jan'44.
- 6-14-44 - 1 May'44 report of 88th CB - operating at Emirau.
- 6-16-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 88th CB - Ceased operations at Treasury 21 Mar'44 and departed for Emirau 27 Mar'44 arriving at Emirau 30 Mar'44.
- 7-10-44 - 1 Jun'44 report of 88th CB - operating at Emirau. Was at Treasury 15 Jan'44 to 24 Mar'44.
- 7-31-44 - 1 Jul'44 report of 88th CB - operating At Emirau.
- 8-25-44 - 88th CB located at Emirau - Following info from Data of Sopac as of 7/1/44:

ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
30 Jun'44	31	945	Recap.
1 Aug'44	33	927	R & MoR
1 Sep'44	35	930	R & MoR
30 Sep'44		1055	Recap
1 Oct'44	33	1055	MoR
1 Nov'44	32		R
1 Dec'44	32	1052	BNP625 & R
1 Nov'44 - Sec. "A"	13	492	MoR
1 Dec'44 - Sec. "A"	13	494	MoR
1 Nov'44 - OSSO Sec.	19	562	R & BNP625
1 Jan'45	18		R
1 Jan'45 - "B" Ulithi	13	496	BNP625 & R
1, Mar'45 - Sec. B	13	489	BNP625 & MoR
1 FEB'45 - Sec. A	20	569 <sup>743</sup>	MoR <sup>MoR</sup>
1 Feb'45 - Sec. B	13	491	MoR
1 Apr'45 - Sec. B	14	483	MoR
1 Apr'45 - Det. A	16	562	BNP625 * MoR
1 May'45	30	1042	MoR
1 Jun'45	30	1041	MoR
1 Jul'45	28	975	BNP625 & R
1 Aug'45	28	905	BNP625 & R
1 Sept'45		542	BNP625

88th Construction Battalion (INACTIVATED)

88th C.B.

Arrived Noumea Jul'43  
" Guadalcanal Nov'43  
" Treasury Jan'44  
" Emirau Apr'44  
Staging for Cub 15 Jul'44

- 9-15-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of 88th CB - located at Emirau. Comserfor7flt endorsement states that the 88th is to return to the SoPac command for further assignment.
- 9-26-44 - The 88th CB is located at Emirau. (Sec. Disp. 172238 NCR 13659 dtd 24 Sep'44 from CNB Emirau to Comseronsopac)
- 10-18-44 -- 88th CB detached from Emirau to proceed and report to a previously directed destination. (CNB Emirau NAB/P16-4/00 over Ser. 0223 Conf. ltr to CinC of 88th CB)
- 10-27-44 - One-half of 88th CB assigned to Cub 12 for operations at KING 2. (Comserfor7flt Sec. ltr to Budocks S31 over Ser. BP-001873 dtd 6 Oct'44 - Call No. 13668)
- 11-8-44 - 88th CB is at Emirau staging for a forward movement. One-half of the batt has been assigned to Cub 12 for operations at KING 2. (Comserfor7flt Sec. ltr A9-4 over Ser BP-001882 to Budocks dtd 12 Oct'44 monthly report for Sep'44)
- 11-11-44 -- One-half of the 88th CB is located at Ulithi, Mariannas (Atoll Command Ulithi Sec. disp to CNO 011428 NCR 15157 dtd 8 Nov'44).
- 11-15-44 -- Cincpoa requests that  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the 88th CB (which was transferred with Cub 12 to Sovespac) that this units orders be modified detaching them from the 38th CB and assigning them to Com7flt. (Cincpoa conf. disp. 080541 NCR 15674 to Comwescarsubare dtd 11 Nov'44).
- 11-16-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 88th CB - Batt was secured on 14 Aug'44 from all construction projects at Emirau in order to recondition equipment and material for forward movement.

88th C.B.

- 11-29-44 - One-half of the 88th CB is located at Tacloban, Leyte. (Comserv7flt Sec. Displ to CNO 150133 NCR 18921 dtd 24 Nov'44)
- 12-2-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of 88th CB - Began loading equip. for forward move on 29 Sep'44.
- 12-6-44 - CO, Cub 12 Sec. ltr to Cincpoa dtd 17 Nov'44 requests that the 88th and 6th (Sp) be rejoined into their original complete batts. One-half of each are at Ulithi and Leyte. 1st End. by NABU #4 Navy 3964 dtd 18 Nov'44 recommends the approval of.
- 12-12-44 - 88th CB located at Ulithi. (AtCom Ulithi Sec. Disp. to CNO 011402 dtd 9 Dec'44)
- 12-28-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of 88th CB, Section "A" - located at Ulithi. Report endorsed by 38th Regiment.
- 12-28-44 -- 1/2 of the 88th CB joined the 12th Reg. in the middle of Oct'44 at Leyte. (Comserfor7flt Sec. report for Oct'44 dtd 20 Nov'44).
- 1-3-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of 88th CB, Sec. "A" - located at Ulithi. Report endorsed by 38th Regiment.
- 1-13-45 - One-half of the 88th CB located at Ulithi. (Atoll Com Ulithi Sec Disp to CNO 030544 dtd 11 Jan'45)
- 1-13-45 - One-half of the 88th CB in the 12th Regiment and located on Jinamoc, P.I. and Samar. (Comserfor7flt Sec report for Nov'44 dtd 15 Dec'44)
- 1-17-45 -- The 88th CB left the U.S. 3 Jul'43 and is now located at Ulithi and the Philippines. ComUlithi requests that this unit be sent back to the states for rehabilitation. (Atoll ComUlithi Sec. ltr A4/A3 over Ser. 0022 to CincpacfltPoa dtd 8 Jan'45).
- 1-26-45 - 1 Nov'44 report of the 12th Reg. - During the month of Oct'44, ~~the~~ one-half of the 88th CB joined the 12th Reg. at Leyte.

88th CB

- 1-26-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of the 38th Reg. - Sec. A located at Ulithi, Sec. B at Leyte.
- 1-26-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of the 88th CB - 1/2 of Batt located at Tacloban, Leyte. Report endorsed by 13th Regiment.
- 1-31-45 -- 1/2 of the 88th CB will be transferred from Ulithi to Leyte about 1 Feb'45. (Cincpos Sec. disp to Cincsoespac 110115 dtd 17 Jan'45 in regard to Cincsoespac 5th End. AGO454 dtd 16 Dec'44 on Cub 12 ltr of 17 Nov'44).
- 2- 2-45 - 1 Nov'44 report of the 88th CB - Batt left Emirau on 6 Oct'44 - Det. "A", comprised of 564 men and 17 officers, scheduled for "Vocalist"; Det. "B", comprised of 492 men and 14 officers, scheduled for "Horror". Det. "A" arrived Manus 7 Oct. and remained there until 19 Oct; arrived at \_\_\_\_\_ New Guinea on 20 Oct and remained there until 23 Oct when it joined the convoy enroute to ult. destination. The convoy arrived OSSO on 29 Oct. Personnel still aboard ship as of 31 Oct. Detachment "A" comprised of Co. C & D. Detachment "B" comprised of Co. A & B.
- 2-12-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of the 38th Reg. - Sec. "B" of the 88th CB, located at Mog-Mog, Ulithi, will complete their assignment on or about 20 Jan'45 and will be available about 25 Jan'45 for detachment from the Regiment.
- 2-13-45 -- Comservforpacflt restr. ltr Ser. 365-61 dtd 18 Jan'45 to OinC of the 1/2 88th CB at ALID. - established the complement of this part of the 88th CB with 17 offs and 541 men.
- 2-13-45 -- 1/2 of the 88th CB is available for Samar. (CNO Sec. ltr to distribution list Ser. 0039230 dtd 3 Feb'45).
- 2-13-45 -- 1/2 of the 88th CB is located at Ulithi and is alerted for movement. (Atoll Com Ulithi Sec. disp to CNO 020006 dtd 8 Feb'45).
- 2-14-45 -- The 88th CB(1/2) is located on Jinamoc Is. and Samar. This part of the 88th CB is composed of Co. C & D and Hq. Co. (Comserfor7flt Sec. report for Dec'44 dtd 15 Jan'45).

88th C.B.

- 2-19-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of the 88th CB Section "B" - located at Ulithi.
- 3- 2-45 - A detachment of the 88th CB (580 off. and men) joined the 12th Reg. at Tacloban on 30 Oct'44. Movement of all regimental and naval base units to Guiuan was begun on 9 Dec'44 (Because the expected compl. date of the Army airstrip could not be met due to poor soil conditions, an area in southern Samar Is., near Guiuan, was scouted and found suitable for an airstrip and also preferable for other intended installations. Hence, on 9 Dec., it was finally decided to build all naval facilities at Guiuan). (Historical Report by the 12th Reg. on Naval Base Leyte - Comserfor7flt Conf ltr A12 over BP-0172 dtd 7 Feb'45 to Budocks)
- 3-8-45 -- According to Dirpadocks San Fran 15 Feb'45 report the 88th CB(whole unit) is located at Samar.
- 3-14-45 - Comserfor7flt conf. spdltr Ser. 0369 to CNOB Leyte Gulf dtd 2 Mar'45 - The 88th CB is hereby detached from its presently assigned duties. Shall report to CNOB Leyte Gulf for duty with Commander Construction Forces Leyte-Samar.
- 3-21-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 38th Reg. - As of 1 Feb, Sec. B of the 88th CB was preparing to depart from Mog-Mog and rejoin Sec A at Leyte.
- 3-22-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 88th CB<sup>Sec B</sup> - Sec. A under SoWesFac Command at Tacloban, Leyte.
- 3-22-45 - Comdt NOB, Tacloban, Leyte orders the 88th CB to further report to the CO, NavSta Guiuan, Samar for duty with Const Forces headed by Comdr Const Forces and Sr Brg Comdr; ordered to direct the OinC of the detachment on Jinomoc Island to report to the CO, ACORN 30 for duty with Const Forces. (Comdt ltr P16-3(1) over Ser 992 dtd 11 Mar'45 to OinC 88th CB)
- 3-30-45 - Sec. B of the 88th CB reported to NB Tacloban on 15 Mar'45 with 14 off. and 486 men. (OinC 88th CB ltr ECR:rn over 88-P16-3 dtd 15 Mar'45 to Comdt NOB Tacloban)

Location - ~~Sec 1 - Leyte-Samar~~ 88th CB  
~~Sec 2 - Jinamoc Is.~~

3-31-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 88th CB, Det. A - located at Samar. Report end. by 12th R.

4-10-45 - The 88th CB 1st Sec. is located at Samar. The 2nd Sec. is located at Jinamoc Is. with Acorn 30. (Com7flt Sec. disp to Cominch 250756 Mar'45).

4-17-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 88th C, Det. B - located at Ulithi.

4-21-45 - 1/2 88th CB at Jinamoc. Remainder of batt arrived Leyte in Feb'45 and has been assigned const of PT Base at Boban, Samar Is. (Comserfor7flt Sec Rep for Feb'45)

4-24-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of 88th CB - location not given. Detached unit, section A, under SoWesPacCom Tacloban. Endorsed by 12th Reg & 3rd Brig.

4-25-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of 19th Reg. - 88th CB, Det. A working on Jinamoc Island.

4-30-45 - Sec A of the 88th CB located at Jinamoc Is., Leyte; Sec B at Guiuan. To U.S. about 1 Aug'45. (Comserfor7flt Sec Rep of 1 Apr'45)

5- 8-45 - The 88th CB Sec A located at Leyte, Sec B at Samar. (Dirpadocks S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr'45)

5-16-45 - 1 May'45 report of the 88th CB - Still functioning as two units, Det A at Jinamoc, and Det B at Bobon. Report routed via 19th Reg. and 3rd Brg., Sect II.

5-29-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 88th CB, Det. B - located in Samar area. 12th reg. 1st end. t this report states that Det. B is under administrative control of the 19th Reg & under the operational control of the 12th Reg. Report end by 12th Reg & 3rd Brig, Sec 22.

6-2-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 88th Cb, Det. A - located at Samar. Report end by 19th Reg & 3rd Brig, Sec. 2.

6-9-45 - 1 May'45 report of the 19th Reg. - The housing facilities for Acorn 30 at Jinamoc Is. Have been substantially completed by the 88th CB.

6-14-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 88th CB - On 1 Jun'45 orders were recd from the 19th Reg transferring Det B to Jinamoc Is. where Det A is now located. This will bring the

Location - Jinamoc Is. (entire unit) 88th C.B.

6-14-45 - 1 Jun'45 rep (cont.) - the 88th CB together and it will function as a full batt. The PT Base at Bobon has been completed. Report via the 19th Reg and 7th Brg.

6-26-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 19th Reg. - Guiuan detachment of the 88th CB has recd orders to move to Jinamoc during the month of June so that the entire batt will be together in one camp at Tacloban. Each unit of the 19th Reg. will be together by the end of June and all will be based within the San Pedro Bay area.

7-20-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 88th CB - The two detachments of the batt were reassembled into a complete unit during the month of June. The first group, consisting of 2 off. and 80 men, left Bobon, Samar on 4 June and arrived at Jinamoc on same day. This unit was specifically detached from Det B by order of the 19th Reg for assignment to the const of a hospital at NOB Tacloban and went to work on that project on 5 June. Subsequently, addtl instructions were recd by Det B ordering remaining personnel to proceed to Jinamoc to combine with Det A. Accordingly, all work assignd that detachment was discontinued 9 June. The complete movement of men, material, and equipment was accomplished between 13 June and 16 June 1945. 2 off. and 31 men proceeded to Ilo Ilo, Panay on 5 June for temp addtl duty. 50 men overage have been transferred during May and June. Report via 19th Reg and 7th Brg.

7-24-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 19th Reg states that the 88th CB is under both administrative and operational control of the 19th Reg. The 88th CB is scheduled to complete its present assignment about 15 Aug'45.

7-27-45 - The 88th CB--1/2 at Guiuan, Samar constructing PT Base #17 camp, shops, warehouses, waterfront facilities, roads, housing area, water system, elect distr system, roads and showers. The remainder of the Batt is at Jinamoc Is., Leyte Gulf, constructing seaplane base, facilities for Acorn 30, water supply system, dock, camp and camp site. (COT 7th Flt Sec Rep for June) Attached to 19th Reg and 7th Brg.

Location - Jinamoc Island

88th C.B.

- 8-13-45 - The 88th CB is in the 19th Reg. and 7th Brg. (Com7flt conf report on CB Organization in Leyte-Samar area ser.04296 dtd 26 July to CNO)
- 8-14-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 88th CB - located in Leyte-Samar area. 2 off. and 31 men were sent to Iloilo, Panay on 5 June; this project was completed on 14 July and the men and off. ret'd to Batt. 14 men transfd for overage discharge. 44 men transfd for leave and reassignment. It is estimated that the work on Jinamoc Is now in progress will be completed by 10 Aug. The Tacloban Base Hospital should be completed by 15 Aug. The Crusher Plant at Palo, Leyte will be completed and in operation by 4 Aug. Report via 19th Reg and 7th Brg.
- 8-24-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 19th Reg - The 88th CB is located at Jinamoc with the exception of a detachment of 3 off. and 40 men who at Palo, Leyte. The 2 off. and 31 men completed duty at Iloilo, Panay on 14 Jul'45.
- 9-14-45 - Inactivation of following unit at Samar approved:-88th CB, etc. (Cincpoa conf spdltr ser 032474 dtd 7 Sept'45 to Comservpac).
- 9-24-45 - 88th CB in process of inactivation. (CinC, Comdr Samar sec disp 300727 Aug'45 to ComConstTroops, Philseafon).
- 9-24-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of 19th Reg. 88th CB on Jinimoc Island. 285 men transferred to U.S. for rotation. 23 men for over-age discharges. 50 men for discharge under the point system.
- 9-25-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of 88th CB. Located in Samar area. Report via 19th Reg. & 7th Brig. 23 men transferred to U.S. for over-age discharges. 253 men transferred to U.S. for leave & reassignment. 32 men transferred to RS for transfer to U.S. 50 men were transferred to U.S. for discharge under the point system. 13 men rec'd from other units. 11 men transferred from other units.

Location -Samar

88th CB

- 10-3-45 - Comservpac is requesting Comphilseafon to inactivate<sup>6</sup> the following units:-CBMUs 512, 568, 569 & 582, 88th CB. Inform Comservpac when inactivations are completed. (Comservpac conf spdltr ser 05194 dtd 12 Sept'45 to Comphilseafon).
- 1-11-46 - 88th CB was inactivated about 1 Oct'45. (Lt. McNeish, formerly with the 88th CB).
- 3-7-46 - DirWestPacDocks conf. CB report of 10 Feb states final inactivation date of 88th CB is 20 Nov 45.

INACTIVATED

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
6/3/44	-	Tularuz	-	Left d.s. July 17 43.
6/6/44	acom 13	-	Combase Sec disp. 150024 May.	
6/6/44	-	-	Combase sec	assignment to acom
6/12/44	-	-	disp. 010550 June	not required.
8/7	-	Emirau RASE.	Rufocha memo of cbs May 1 - 1944.	
8/7	-	Emirau	Combase Emirau sec disp. 270022 July.	Temporary duty at Emirau.
10/11	-	-	Emirau sec disp 052114 act.	Relate Emirau - departed in forward movement.
11/7	-	1/2 74050	Ulich-Maximas sec 011428 Nov.	Activities disp.
11/11	-	1/2 Avoid Sowepoc	Cincpra Com disp Nov - 080541.	1/2 disp. Sixth Cdb 12 to Sowepoc. request be asst Gemdw Com 7th Jlt
89 to C.B.	✓ 1/2	HOSO		
11/25	-	✓ 1/2 OSSO	Combase 7th Jlt sec act disp Nov 150183	
1/18	-	-	Cincpra sec disp 110115 Jan.	1/2 at Ulich (HOSO) will be left Legte about 1 Feb.
3/29	-	# 1 sect. Legte Kuch (Nao Sta Saman) 2nd sec. Legte Kuch (Scaphone Base Legte)	Combase 7th Jlt sec 260558 Mar	present location assignment.
	acom 30			
	(Com 7th 250756 Nov)			
5/22	-	0550-2202	Combase 7th Jlt sec act disp. 100031 May.	Added
8/31	-	-	Saman sec disp 300727 Aug	in process inactivation.

SECRET  
DECLASSIFIED

## United States Naval Construction Battalion 88

United States Naval Construction Battalion 88 was activated under the command of Commander Edgar C. Rowe, CEC, USNR, on February 8, 1943 at the Naval Construction Training Center, Camp Endicott, Davisville, Rhode Island. The battalion then underwent advanced technical and military training at Camp Endicott until April 22, 1943. On April 27, 1943 it left Davisville by train and arrived at Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California.

The 88th Seabees remained at Camp Parks for approximately a month, undergoing training. On May 29, 1943 the battalion left Camp Parks and arrived at Port Hueneme the next day. The battalion was outfitted for overseas duty at Port Hueneme and sailed from that port on July 3, 1943.

On July 19, 1943 the 88th Naval Construction Battalion arrived at Mount Dore, New Caledonia. There the battalion worked on the Cub 9 staging area. It constructed a camp area, a storage area and roads, and other facilities, and did some stevedoring work.

On November 13 two companies, A and C, and one-half of the headquarters company left New Caledonia and arrived at Doma Cove, Guadalcanal on November 16. There the 515 men of the detachment constructed camp structures, roads, storage areas, culverts, bridges and other necessary structures for another Cub 9 staging area. The 88th Seabees also built pontoon barges and assembled prefabricated control towers for use at Bougainville.

On December 24, 1943 the two companies and the members of the headquarters that had remained behind left New Caledonia and arrived at Doma Cove, Guadalcanal on December 28.

In January 1944 the battalion left Guadalcanal in three echelons, on the 3rd, 13th, and 18th. The echelons, consisting of approximately 340 men each, arrived at the Treasury Islands on the 5th, 15th, and 20th of January. On Treasury Island the battalion constructed highways, secondary roads, bomb dumps, taxiways, and several major camps. It also erected telephone poles for the island communication system and performed malaria eradication work throughout the Treasury Islands.

The main body of the battalion left Treasury Island on March 27, 1944 for Emirau Island which had been occupied by United States Marines on the 19th. It arrived at Emirau on March 30 and began developing an airbase. This task included the grading and building of runways and taxiways, the Acorn 7 camp, and other installations needed to support the base. The first planes landed at the strip only 14 days after the initial work was started.

On May 5, 1944 the battalion was joined by the 60 men of the rear echelon from Treasury Island. The Seabees remained on Emirau working on the airbase and various minor jobs until October 4, 1944.

The battalion was divided into two detachments designated A and B and on October 4 both detachments left the island. On October 9 Detachment B arrived at Ulithi Atoll. There it worked on five different islands of the atoll and constructed a fleet recreation center, piers, airstrips, and camps.

Detachment A arrived at Leyte in the Philippines on October 29, 1944. The Seabees remained aboard the ship until October 30, 1944 when they began going ashore at Samar. While at Samar, the detachment completed the building of a camp and a road, and then rebuilt a bridge over the Bagnon River. The bridge had been destroyed by the Filipinos when they were retreating from the Japanese invaders.

On November 9 the Seabees of Detachment A moved to Jinamoc Island, Philippine Islands. There the detachment built a seaplane base that included pontoon ramps, a concrete ramp, hardstands, and over four miles of roads.

The detachment from Ulithi left that island on February 7, 1945 and arrived at Bobon, Samar, Philippine Islands, on February 10, 1945. This detachment built a major PT-boat repair base and a complete camp facility for the personnel of the base including utilities, housing, recreational facilities and warehouses. On June 10, 1945 the detachment left Bobon to rejoin Detachment A on Jinamoc Island.

On Jinamoc the entire 88th Seabees worked on tank farms, roads, a hospital, housing, warehouses, and other projects. The battalion also constructed a 350-bed hospital for the Naval Shore Facilities at Tacloban, operated a rock quarry, and repaired piers. A detachment was sent to Panay Island to drill test holes along the shores and survey the area for possible development as a naval base. The 88th Naval Construction Battalion remained at Leyte Gulf until its inactivation on September 20, 1945.

The battalion was attached to the Eighteenth Naval Construction Regiment on Emirau. In the Philippine Islands the battalion was first attached to the Twelfth Naval Construction Regiment of the Third Naval Construction Brigade and later to the Nineteenth Naval Construction Regiment of the Seventh Naval Construction Brigade.

Two members of the battalion, Sava Salaja, coxswain and James A. Heniff, DMI, received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. The battalion received commendations from the Air Command, Emirau; The Malaria Control Headquarters, Emirau; and the United States Pacific Fleet, Commander Air Center.

## 88<sup>th</sup> Naval Construction Battalion

### Chronology

- 08 Feb 1943 The battalion is activated at Naval Construction Training Center, Camp Endicott, Davisville, R.I. Commander Edgar C. Rowe, CEC, USNR, Officer in Charge.
- 22 Apr 1943 The battalion entrained and left Camp Endicott.
- 27 Apr 1943 The 88<sup>th</sup> Seabees arrived at Camp Parks, Shoemaker, California. Here the battalion participated in a program of training.
- 29 May 1943 The battalion left Camp Parks.
- 30 May 1943 The battalion arrived at Port Hueneme and began training and outfitting for overseas deployment.
- 03 Jul 1943 The 88<sup>th</sup> NCB embarked and sailed from Port Hueneme.
- 19 Jul 1943 The battalion arrived at Mount Dore, New Caledonia. At New Caledonia the Seabees constructed the Cub 9 staging area, building roads, camp and storage areas.
- 13 Nov 1943 Companies A and C plus one half of the headquarters company left New Caledonia.
- 16 Nov 1943 A, C and one half of the Headquarters Company arrived at Doma Cove on Guadalcanal. Here the detachment constructed facilities for Cub 9 staging area, unloaded equipment and base supplies from ships and loaded on other ships headed for forward areas. They built pontoon barges and prefabricated control towers for use on Bougainville.
- 24 Dec 1943 Companies B, D and the Headquarters personnel remaining on New Caledonia embarked and sailed for Guadalcanal.
- Jan 1944 Battalion left Guadalcanal in three echelons on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of January. They arrived at Treasury Island on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of January.
- Jan – Mar 1944 The battalion constructed roads, bomb dumps, camps, storage facilities and taxiways.
- 27 Mar 1944 The main body of the 88<sup>th</sup> Seabees departed Treasury Islands.
- 30 Mar 1944 The main body of the battalion arrived at Emirau Island. Here the battalion built a large airbase, the Acorn 7 camp and all necessary facilities for maintaining and operating the airbase.
- 05 May 1944 The 60 men of the rear echelon from Treasury joined the battalion.
- 04 Oct 1944 The battalion was split into two detachments. Both detachments left Emirau on this date.
- 09 Oct 1944 Detachment B arrived at Ulithi Atoll. The detachment worked on five several islands of the atoll. Its two primary assignment were the construction of a Fleet Recreation Center and an SCLU which included utilities, housing and warehouses.

88th NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION  
Section "B"  
Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.

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417

2 April 1945

To Facilitate  
Administrative Handling  
Classification changed  
from:  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
to:  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Irvin S. Ramusson  
Cdr. CEC-V(S), USNR  
Signature

From: Officer-in-Charge  
To : The Chief of Naval Personnel  
Subj: Itinerary of 88th Naval Construction Battalion  
Ref : (a) Pers-2122B-CEC/rc, dated 20 March 1945

1. In accordance with Reference (a) the following information is submitted:

8 February 1943	88th Naval Const. Batt. was formed at Camp Endicott, Davisville, R. I., approx. 1060 men.
22 April 1943	Battalion left Camp Endicott.
27 April 1943	Arrived Camp Parks, Shoemaker, Calif., approx. 1060 men.
29 May 1943	Left Camp Parks for Port Hueneme
30 May 1943	Arrived Port Hueneme.
3 July 1943	Departed from Port Hueneme, approx. 1030 men.
19 July 1943	Arrived Mt. Dore, New Caledonia.
13 November 1943	Companies A, C, and one-half of Headquarters left New Caledonia, approx. 515 men.
16 November 1943	Companies A, C, and one-half of Headquarters arrived Doma Cove, Guadalcanal.
24 December 1943	Co. B, D, and one-half of Headquarters left New Caledonia, approx. 515 men.
28 December 1943	Co. B, D, and one-half of Headquarters arrived Doma Cove, Guadalcanal.
January 1944	Left Guadalcanal in three echelons, 3 January, 13 January, and 18 January. Approximately 340 men in each echelon. Arrived Treasury Island, 5 January, 15 January, and 20 January.
27 March 1944	Departed Treasury Island, approx. 940 men.
30 March 1944	Arrived Emirau Island.
2 May 1944	Rear Echelon, approximately 60 men, departed Treasury Island.
5 May 1944	Rear Echelon, approx. 60 men, arrived Emirau.

ent to see  
5/4/45

Subj: Itinerary, 88th Naval Construction Battalion.

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4 October 1944

Left Emirau, Battalion divided in two sections, Detachment A comprised of Companies C, D, and one-half of Headquarters, approx, 550 men. Detachment B, comprised of Companies A, B, and one-half of Headquarters, approx. 488 men.

9 October 1944

Detachment B arrived Ulithi.

29 October 1944

Detachment A arrived Leyte, P. I.

1 November 1944

Detachment A made camp 2 miles west of Basey, Samar, P. I.

9 November 1944

Detachment A moved to Jinamoc Island, P. I.

7 February 1945

Detachment B, 486 men, left Mog Mog, Ulithi.

10 February 1945

Detachment B arrived Bobon, Samar, P. I.

*E. C. Rowe*

E. C. Rowe

To Facilitate  
Administrative Handling  
Classification changed  
from: CONFIDENTIAL  
to: DECLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

To:

Irvin S. Rosmus  
Comdr. CEC-V(1) USNR  
Signature



In appreciation of the  
cooperation and training  
received while at  
Camp Parks









