

141st Naval Construction Battalion

*Historical
Information*



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



Date	Commodity	Location	Reference	Notes
6/3/44	-	Pearl Harbor Hawaii	-	Left U.S. Feb 1944.
7/27/44	-	Hilo, Hawaii	Com 14 sec ADP	Act disp. 060609.
10/11	-	F R A Y	-	Com 14 sec act disp 042028 act.
1/13	-	A O I P (Hilo, Hawaii)	Com 14 sec act disp. 0622 H3	Nov.
				Com 14 sec to be left in Hilo.
2/15	F R A Y (2nd) (Brig.)	-	Com 14 sec act disp 081016	061001 sub - desired to be listed from Com 14 sec in Feb.
2/15	-	-	-	Com 14 sec ready F R A Y 20 Feb.
6/11	commissary 7/4 sec property	FOHO!	Com 14 sec act disp 102050 June	delete 7/10. Added - para.

141st C.B.

NCTC - Peary- Davisville
 ABD - Davisville
 Ready Date -
 Left ABD - 23 Feb'44
 Location - P. H. Meanalua-Maui Hawaii Kwajalein

LOG

- 0- 2-43 - CNO orders transfer of the 141st CB about 11 Oct. to NCTC Davisville. (Conf. Disp. 011741 NCR 3978 from VONCO to Peary dtd 2 Oct'43)
- 1-27-43 - CNO orders transfer of the 141st CB about 30 Nov'43 to ABD Davisville. (Conf. Disp. 271659 NCR 3670 from CNO to NCTC Davisville dtd 27 Nov'43)
- 2-29-44 - 141st CB left ABD 23 Feb'44. (ABD Davisville 24TWK1256 FEB1944)
- 5-11-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Moanalua Ridge. 141st CB was enroute from 1 to 16 Mar'44 to its Present location. Departed ABD Davisville 23 Feb'44 and arrived 16 Mar'44.
- 6-16-44 - 1 May'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Hilo. According to the 59th CB Apr'44 report the 141st CB replaced the 59th CB at Hilo 20 Apr'44.
- 7- 7-44 - 1 Jun'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Hilo and Kamuela, Hawaii.
- 8- 9-44 - 141st CB report for 1 Jul'44 - operating at Hilo, Kamuela, and Upolu Point (Hawaii)
- 8-30-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Hilo, Kamuela, and Upolu Pt. all on Haw.
- 9-12-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 141st CB - operating at NAS Hilo, Kamuela, and Upolu.
- 9-18-44 - The 141st CB is now located at Pearl Harbor. (Com 14 Sec. Disp. 042028 NCR 17923 to CNO dtd 9 Oct'44)
- 9-22-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Hilo, Kamuela, and Upolu Point during Aug. Report endorsed by 7th Reg.

141st CB

- 11-15-44 - The 141st CB is assigned to the 34th Reg. (Comserforpacflt Sec. ltr 55-CR/akr over Ser. 001008 to CNO dtd 4 Nov'44).
- 11-16-44 - The 141st CB is located at Hilo (Com 14 Sec. disp to CNO 062243 NCR 15886 dtd 11 Nov'44).
- 11-16-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Hilo and Upolu Point, Hawaii.
- 12-28-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of 141st CB - operating at Hilo, Hawaii. Report endorsed by 34th Regiment.
- 1-10-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of the 34th Reg. - The 141st CB has men in 4 different locations, two of them in outlying sections of the island. One company of men was detached to another island.
- 1-11-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of 141st CB - One company has been detailed duty with the 142nd CB on the island of Maui.
- 1-30-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of the 141st CB - location not stated. Report endorsed by the 34th Regiment and 2nd, H.A. Brigades.
- 2-13-45 - 2nd Brdg. Sec. ltr Ser. 084 dtd 27 Jan'45 to 141st CB - Ordered to proceed on ships to a verbally designated place in the Pacific Area. Upon arrival to report to the 2nd Brdg. for duty.
- 2-14-45 -- The 141st CB is available from Pearl for assignment to Samar. (CNO Sec. ltr to distribution list Ser. 0039230 dtd 3 Feb'45).
- 2-14-45 -- Comserv7flt desires to lift the 141st CB from Pearl in Feb'45. (Comserv7flt Sec. disp 061001 to Com7flt dtd 8 Feb'45). & Hilo.
- 2-17-45 -- The 141st CB is located at Pearl Hbr and Kahului. (Com 14 Sec. disp to CNO 081016 Feb'45).
- 2-26-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 141st CB - located with HANCB and the 34th Reg.

Location - Hilo, Hawaii Kwajalein 141st C.B.

- 3-3-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 34th Reg. - On 19 Jan'45 the detachment completed assigned projects for Marine Camp at Kamuela, Hawaii and ret'd to its station. To speed completion of the project, 15 men were assigned duty at Upolu Auxiliary Landing Strip. All construction there in final phases.
- 4-18-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 34th Reg. - The 141st CB is located at Hilo, Hawaii. All outlying or detached details of the batts attached to the Reg. have ret'd to their resp. batts preparatory for movement to forwd area within 2 weeks. "ll const. will be secured on 7 Apr'45 to prepare for embarkation to Samar on or about 13 Apr'45.
- 4-19-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 141st CB - located at Hilo, Hawaii. Report routed via 34th Reg. and 2nd Brdg.
- 4-30-45 - Comserfor7flt Sec Rep of 1 Apr'45 shows the 141st CB ordered from P.H. to Leyte-Samar area.
- 5-8-45 - The 141st CB is located at Hilo, Hawaii. Ordered to 7th Flt Leyte-Samar. (Dir-pacdock S.F. Sec Rep of 15 Apr'45)
- 5-11-45 - The 141st CB hereby detached from the 2nd Brigade. To report to Comdr Const Troops APO 331. (Comservpac Sec spdltr ser 002008 dtd 4 May'45 to OinGs 74th, 126th, and 141st CBs)
- 5-16-45 - 1 May'45 report of the 141st CB - located at Hilo as of 1 May. 1 off and 3 CPOs are still on detached duty with the batt gear for ULOD destination coming from the States. Report routed via 34th Reg. and 2nd Brdg.
- 5-19-45 - The 141st CB hereby deleted from Comservpac ser 002008 dtd 4 May. 141st CB hereby detached from 2nd Brdg. and 34th Reg. Proceed in accord with shipp instructions to be issued by Comservpac and report to IsCom Kwajalein. (Comservpac Sec spdltr ser 002049 dtd 7 May to OinG 141st CB)
- 5-19-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of 141st CB - located at Hilo. Report end by 34th Reg & 2nd Brig.

Location - Kwajalein 141st C.B.
6-13-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 34th Reg. - About the middle of April all constr projects were terminated in order that the batts would be able to make final preparations for movement to Samar. The transport destined to carry the Reg staff and the 3 batts on Maui (137th and 142nd) arrived at Maui on 27 April. Plans were made for all personnel of the Reg and 3 batts to go aboard on 1 May. At the last min the higher command removed the 141st CB, located at Hilo, from the proposed movement to Samar, and it is expected that this batt will be detached from the Reg. during the early part of May.
6-14-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the CEMU 549 - The 141st CB moved on Kwajalein last week.
6-26-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 34th Reg. - The 141st CB was detached from the 34th Reg on 4 May'45 in accordance with Comservpac sec spdltr 002049 and ordered to report to Immediate Superior in Command, Kwajalein.
7- 2-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 141st CB - Batt embarked at Hawaii on 13 May, stopped at Iroquois Pt and departed Hawaiian Is. 16 May'45. Arrived Kwajalein on 24 May but remained on board until 27 May on which day they disembarked. 1 off. and 3 CPOs are still on detached duty at Samar but will be retd to the 141st CB.
7-12-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 141st CB - located at Kwajalein.
8-13-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 141st CB - located at Kwajalein.
9- 6-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of 141st CB. 68 men transferred to U.S. for leave & reassignment.
10-18-45 - 1 Oct'45 report of 141st CB - location not stated. 178 men transferred to U.S. for discharge under the point system.
11-13-45 - 1 Nov'45 report of 141st CB - located at Kwajalein.
12-14-45 - 1 Dec'45 report of 141st CB - location not stated. 322 men transferred to U.S. for discharge. 244 men rec'd on 20 Nov'45.
12-27-45 - Comservpac reqs IsCom, Kwajalein Is. to inactivate 141st CB. (Comservpac 270306 disp 270306 Dec'45 to IsCom, Kwajalein Is.)

Location - Kwajalein 141st CB

1-4-46 - 141st CB was inactivated on 2 Jan'46. (IsCom, Jwajalein Is. Marshall Is. disp 030005 Jan'46 to Comservpac).
1-29-46 - 1 Jan'46 report of 141st CB - located at Kwajalein.

INACTIVATED

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>		<u>AUTHORITY</u>
	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	
30 Jun'44		1089	Recap.
1 Aug'44	30	1092	R & MoR
1 Sep'44	30	1086	MoR
1 Oct'44	30	1083	MoR
1 Nov'44	29	1069	MoR
1 Dec'44	31	1061	MoR
1 Jan'45	30	1047	MoR
1 Feb'45	31	1038	MoR
1 Apr'45	31	1031	BNP625 & MoR
1 May'45	30	1017	MoR
1 Jun'45	30	1022	BNP625 & R
1 Jul'45	30	1008	BNP625 & R
1 Aug'45		1026	BNP625
1 Sept'45		945	BNP625
1 Oct'45	18	762	BNP625 & R
1 Nov'45	18	431	BNP625 & R
1 Dec'45,	9	534	BNP625 & R
1 Jan'46	7		R

141st Construction Battalion (INACTIVATED)



THE BATTALION COLOR GUARD

Reading L to R: Harvey J. Delaurenti, S1c; Philip S. Armstrong, MM1c, national ensign; Quentin F. Winget, SF1c, battalion standard; and Adam A. Wajda, BM2c.

BATTALION HISTORY

Composed of men from every state in the Union, the One Hundred and Forty First Naval Construction Battalion was formed at Camp Peary, Virginia, in early October, 1943.

Under the command of Lieutenant Commander L. C. Tschudy, the battalion soon moved to Camp Endicott, located at Davisville, Rhode Island, for advanced training and schooling.

Late the same month, the battalion made the first of what was to prove many moves about the area, when it hiked up to the Sun Valley rifle range for a week's stay.

Quonset huts and oil heaters. Pleasant evenings. Slow moving chow lines. Lock and load. "Commence firing!" Check target 29. "Maggie's" drawers! No sun. Back to Endicott.

"BOOT LEAVE"

Then came November 7th. Boot leave—"at last!" Leaving the boys from the West coast and other distant regions to hold the fort, officers and enlisted men living east of the Mississippi quickly scattered in all directions.

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BATTALION HISTORY

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"Home Sweet Home" for ten days, or, what was left of it, after allowing time for wartime travel on overcrowded trains and busses. Homecoming celebrations. The days flew by. Fond farewells! Who will ever forget his first leave?

Back on the ball! Extended order and classes for certain ratings. The newly organized battalion band came out of hiding. Winter is coming. The boxers and basketball players began organized practice. Turkey for Thanksgiving!



BATTALION IS COMMISSIONED

Then came another very important day. The One Hundred and Forty First Naval Construction Battalion was duly commissioned by Captain Fred N. Rogers, USN (retired), and presented with its "colors" on November 27, 1943.

At last we were an accepted unit of the newest, yet already proven, branch of the naval service. An impressive and colorful ceremony. Wind-swept drill field. And no pea-coats!

Early December at Camp Thomas. Fifteen days leave for the gang living west of the Mississippi. "California Here I come!" From Seattle in the north to San Diego in the south.

What a nightmare that proved. Supplies (?) ran out! Hard riding trains. Little sleep. Gas-lit coaches. Boy, it feels—felt good to be home. Back to Sun Valley (ABD) for the battalion in the meantime.

Heavy winter clothing issued. Barbed-wire liberty! Special missions to East Greenwich. Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! Lient. A. H. Lowe, executive officer, assumed temporary command, when Lt. Comdr. Tschudy was called to Washington.

Back to Camp Thomas. New replacements arrived from Camp Peary. Blizzards. Every other night liberty. In to Providence. "The Wagon Wheel." "The Town Tavern." "Who let the fire go out?"

Time marched on. Commander P. S. Clark arrived and assumed his duties as the new officer-in-charge. The boxing team was still unbeaten. Sub-zero weather. "Who stole our coal shovel?"

Extra gear and equipment issued. The scuttlebutt really began to flow. "We're shipping out. We've shoving off for here—there—everywhere!" The band became of age in winning the coveted camp band championship. Those were the days.

Finally the order: "pack all extra gear!" All liberties cancelled. Hurried long-distance phone calls home. A dress rehearsal around the drill field. "Oh! My Back."

Then it came: "RIGHT SHOULDER—BAGS!" At last we were off. Headed for the dock and overseas. Waiting in the warehouse. Hot coffee from the Red Cross. Hours on the dock. "What time is it, mate?" Seven, nine, eleven o'clock. On board at last.

Life on board the troop transport: Crowded quarters. Winding chow lines. Emergency drills. "Now hear this!" (Who put that in?) The Panama Canal. Plenty of time (a slight understatement) for reading, writing and card games. Gunnery practice for the regular crew. Divine services. Band concerts.

"Land ho!" "Aloha, Hawaii!" Ashore after 22 days on board ship. Liberty in war-crowded Honolulu. On the move again. And then to our Island. New work assignments. Sightseeing trips. The mongoose trail! The cure: five days in the BRIG.

Grand opening of the new ship's service store and beer garden. The novelty of voting in a former (censored). Attending the early evening touch-tackle football games.

The first Christmas packages from home start to arrive. The scuttlebutt has started to flow quite heavily again. What now? "Yep, this is a big outfit!" Amen.



HAWAIIAN HIGHLIGHTS

WELL WORTH REMEMBERING

The island of Oahu (gathering place). Picturesque Diamond Head overlooking Honolulu harbor. The city of Honolulu (fair haven). Truly, the "cross-roads of the Pacific," where the East and West meet in a tropical Hawaiian setting.

Overcrowded conditions everywhere. Wartime rules and regulations. Curfew. Uniforms representing every branch of the service. Seemingly endless lines leading to movie houses, bars and restaurants.

Liberty in whites. Shopping for souvenirs or film. Dodging a tropical shower. Making the rounds. Visiting the various USO centers. Talking with servicemen who have been "down under." Waiting for a bus. Standing room only.

Out to Waikiki Beach. Strolling around the Royal Hawaiian Hotel. Watching the natives paddle outrigger canoes or come dashing in on surf-boards. Hawaiian music and hula dancing.

HAWAII—THE BIG ISLAND

Hilo; the principal city. Friendly, slow and easy going. Old fashioned shops vie with the new. Colorful little parks. Native houses built well off the ground. Over-hanging corrugated tin roofs, painted a bright red or green.

Cleared areas, surrounded by dense jungle. The wily little mongoose. Coconut Island. Tall, leaning palm and coconut trees. Dark-skinned shoe-shine boys. "Shine, Sea-bee!" Open air taxis. Old native ladies rolling Bull Durham.

Lofty mountain peaks in the distance. Mauna Loa reaching up to 13,675 feet. Mauna Kea, higher yet, pushing up to 13,825 feet. Beautiful sights in the early morning.

Scenic trip around the island: Through cane fields then up and across the Parker ranch. Visiting the old royal summer palace at Hulihee. Crossing numerous old lava flows. Arriving at the Volcano House overlooking the Kilauea crater. A side trip to the black sands beach.

DECLASSIFIED

ITINERARY OF 161ST NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

11 Oct 1943	Transferred from Camp Peary, Williamsburg, Va., to Camp Endicott, Davisville, R. I.
30 Nov 1943	Transferred to ABD, Davisville, R. I.
23 Feb 1944	Departed ABD, Davisville, R. I. for overseas.
16 Mar 1944	Arrived Pearl Harbor. Operated in four different sections of Hawaiian Area.
13 May 1945	Battalion embarked at Hawaii, stopped at Iroquois Point and departed Hawaiian Is. 16 May 1945.
24 May 1945	Arrived Kwajalein but did not disembark until 27 May 1945.
1 Sept 1945	Located at Kwajalein.

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NOTE: This itinerary based on records available in C. B. Operations
and Personnel Section of Bureau of Naval Personnel.

22 September 1945.



U.S. NAVY

OAHU ST.



CONSTRUCTION BATTALION











