

# 10<sup>th</sup> Special Naval Construction Battalion

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*Historical  
Information*



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



10th (Sp) 12th ...

10th C.B. (Special)

- HC70 - Peery
- ABD - Davisville
- Ready Date - 1 Aug'43
- Left ABD - Sep'43 (Departed U.S. 4 Sep'43) Dec'43 Med. Report.
- Location - ~~WXXY England Exeter & Plymouth~~

LOG

12-16-43 - Distribution of personnel in Europe - (Conf. Disp. Comnavu to CNO 141536 MCR 6120 Dec'43)

	<u>Off.</u>	<u>Men</u>
Plymouth	2	74
Base 2	4	135
Falmouth	2	44
Exeter	8	248

- 2-15-44 - 10th (Sp), 2nd Section mon. report for Dec'43 - 12 officers and 380 men at Exeter, 1 off. and 53 men at Plymouth, 1 off. and 42 men at Falmouth, 1 off. and 3 men at Hdqtrs. of 13th Reg., 1 off. and 8 men at Milford Haven, 16 off. and 10 men at Dartmouth.
- 2-16-44 - 1 Feb'44 report of 10th (Sp) - Operations for month of Jan'44 were at Exeter, Tiverton, Plymouth, Milford Haven, Penarth, Falmouth, and Dartmouth.
- 3-29-44 - 10th (Sp), 2nd Section hdqtrs are at Exeter, Devon, England. (13th Reg. monthly report for Jan'44)
- 4- 8-44 - 1 Mar'44 report of the 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - operating at Exeter, Plymouth, Falmouth, Dartmouth, and Penarth. Milford Haven detachment returned to Exeter 19 Feb'44.

10th C.B. (Special)

- 5- 6-44 - 1 Apr'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - operating at Exeter, Plymouth, Falmouth, and Dartmouth.
- 5- 9-44 - 10th CB, (Sp), 2nd Sect., detached from 13th Reg. and ordered to CO, USFASB Exeter. (13th Reg. report for Mar'44)
- 5-30-44 - 1 May'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - operating at Exeter, Plymouth, Dartmouth and Falmouth.
- 6-29-44 - 1 Jun'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - operating at Exeter, Plymouth, Dartmouth, and Falmouth.
- 7-28-44 - 1 Jul'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - operating at Exeter, Plymouth, Tiverton, and Dartmouth.
- 8-15-44 - 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. now stevedoring at Exeter and South Coast Ports. (ComNavu Sec. Memo to Adm. Stark dtd 25 Jul'44)
- 8-23-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - Stevedoring at Exeter, Plymouth, and Falmouth.
- 9-31-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - stevedoring at Exeter and Plymouth.
- 10-28-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect. - stevedoring at Exeter and Plymouth. Report endorsed by 13th Reg.
- 10-28-44 - 13th Reg. now consists of the 97th and 10th CB (Sp), 2nd Sect. - Authority requested to disband the 13th Reg. and the batts to report to Comphibufy. (Comnavu to CNO conf. disp. 311216 MCR 101 dtd 21 Oct'44)
- 10-31-44 - 1 Oct'44 report of the 13th Reg. - About the middle of Sep., 100 men of the 10th (Sp), 2nd Sect., were moved from Exeter, Devon to Fowey, Cornwall, to load ships returning to the U.S. The detachment moved back to Exeter and Plymouth on or about 27 Sep'44, their job at Fowey having been completed.

10th C.B. (

- 11-1-44 - The 10th (Sp) 2nd Sect., ordered to report to Comphibsub for duty as the 13th Reg. is dissolved. (ComNavsub conf. disp. to Comphibsub 081431 17 Dec 44 dtd 8 Nov'44)
- 12- 5-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec. - operated at Exeter and Plymouth during Oct'44. Report endorsed by 13th Regiment.
- 1-1-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec. - located at Exeter.
- 2-10-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of the 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec. - located at Exeter. 1 off. and 39 men were on temp. duty at Bugle, Cornwall from 2 Dec to 10 Dec'44. 1 off. and 20 men ret'd from temp duty at Falmouth on 15 Dec'44. 1 off. and 20 men on temp duty at Plymouth from 26 Dec to 31 Dec'44. 15 men were transferred to the 114th CB on 13 Dec'44.
- 3- 5-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec. - located at Naval Amph Supply Base, Exeter.
- 4-10-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of the 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec. - located at Exeter, Devon.
- 4-7-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of the 10th CB (Sp) Sec.2 - located in U.K.
- 4-25-45 - Ref (a) of ltr suggests that section designations of CB (Specials) 7, 10, 15, and 19 be cancelled due to the fact that the first section of each of these batts has been inactivated. In accord therewith, it is requested that there be no further ref to sec nos. of subject units and that the active sections with their corresp complements henceforth be designated CB (Special). (CNO Restr ltr Ser 214730 dtd 18 Apr'45 to Bupers)
- 5-10-45 - 1 May'45 report of 10th (Sp) - located at Exeter.
- 5-22-45 - ETD 3 Jun'45 10th (Sp). (Comnavsub conf disp 181056 to Bupers)

Location - ~~Exeter~~ Devon

10th C.B. (Special)

- 5-31-45 - When directed by proper authority, Lt Comdr Murrell, CRC, will take charge of the off and men (13 off. and approx 445 men) and proceed to Davisville and report to CO pending furas personnel. (Comphibsubkey conf disp 251525B May'45 to Navphibsubbase Exeter)
- 6-6-45 - 14 off. and 445 men of the 10th (Sp) for NCTC Davisville listed as passengers on board USAT Geo Washington. (Comnavsub conf disp 021612 Jun'45 to CNO)
- 6-6-45 - 1 June'45 report of the 10th(Sp) - location not given. Report routed via CO USNASE Exeter, England.
- 6-21-45 - 10th (Sp) reported this station 12 Jun'45 from overseas with 12 off. and 445 men. Men due return from leave 17 July to 25 July. 125 men reporting to Camp Parke. Remainder 320 men will report to Endicott. (NCTC Davisville TWX 192247 to Bupers)
- 6-25-45 - Upon arrival of 10th (Sp) at Camp Endicott it is directed that this unit be inactivated and the personnel be given rehabilitation leave. ~~Decommissioning~~ (Bupers conf ltr dtd 1 June to CO NCTC Davisville)
- 6-25-45 - Decommissioning report of the 10th (Sp) as of 15 June rec'd.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>		<u>AUTHORITY</u>
	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	
1 Jul'44	15	481	MoR
1 Aug'44	15	483	MoR
1 Sep'44	14	473	MoR
1 Nov'44	13	440	MoR
1 Dec'44	11	0	MoR
1 Mar'45	17	461	MoR

10th Construction Battalion (Special) - 1st Sect. (INACTIVATED)

10(4)

10th C.B.(Spec) 1st Sec

Training Schedule

NCTC \* Peary  
 ABD - Davisville  
 Ready Date - 25 Feb'44  
 Left ABD - 23 Feb'44  
 Location - Pearl Harbor & Midway

LOG

- 8-13-43 - Lt. Van Schaick assigned Oin C in place of Comdr. Gaidick. (Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 31 July 1943.
- 8-15-43 - Lt. Van Schaick detached to become OinC of the 14th (Spec). (Memo from Comdr. Fay to A-8 dated 9 August'43)
- 8-27-43 - Lt. Comdr. Hendrickson assigned as OINC(Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 10 Aug. '43)
- 9-10-43 - Lt.(jg) Tenuto detached to Peary(Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 2 Sept. '43)
- 1-11-44 - Lt. Comdr Hendrickson detached to Peary(Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 5 Jan'44)
- 1-11-44 - Lt. Nadeau designated as OinC of 10th CB(Sp)(Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 5 January'44).
- 2-11-44 - Ens. West detached to ABD Davisville(Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 7 Feb'44).
- 2-11-44 - Ens. Featherly assigned from Peary(Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 7 Feb'44).
- 2-18-44 - Lieut. Harding assigned from Peary (Budocks ltr to Bupers dated 12 Feb 1944).
- 2-29-44 - 10th Spec 1st Sec. left Davisville 23 Feb'44 with 15 officers and 489 men.(ABD Davisville 24TWX2256Feb1944).
- 3-1-44 - Officer roster checked with 18 Feb'44 roster of movement orders - Detached Lt. Comdr. Crane, MC, & Ens. Biddick, SC. Added Lt. Sapiro, MC, Lt. Franklin, Ch6, Lt. Roush, DC, and Ens. Keating, SC.

10th (Sp) 1

- 4-28-44 - Lt. Simpson, Lt.(jg) Stramiello, Gorham, Ens. Anderson and Carp. Hall detached to Midway for duty under Lt. Simpson.(20th Reg. ltr 20NCR/P16-4/00 over (33-44)AGVS: sfs to Lt.(jg) Stramiello dated 27 Mar'44).
- 5-11-44 - Officer roster checked with 1 Apr'44 report and OK. Co. "A" plus part of a hdqts Co. consisting of 5 officers and 235 men sailed for Midway 29 Mar'44. This batt located at Aiea, Pearl H.
- 6-21-44 - Lt.(jg) Harding detached to Det. 1034(2nd Brg. ltr 2NCR-06-HCB/tr over P16-3 to subj. officer - no date).
- 7-10-44 - Officer roster checked with 1 Jun'44 report and OK. Operating at Pearl.H. and Midway.
- 7-12-44 - Lt.(jg) O'Mara assigned from Det. 1034(2nd Brg. 2nd End. dtd 6 Jun'44 on Det. 1034 ltr dated 3 Jun'44).
- 7-12-44 - ChCarp. Larson detached to Charlottesville(Budocks ltr to Bupers dtd 22 Jun'44).
- 7-17-44 - Lt (jg) Philpott assigned from 2nd Brig (OinC 2nd Brig ltr 2NCR-06-HCB/tr over P16-4 7334 dtd 6/28/44 to Subj Off.). Lt(jg) O'Mara detached to 14th (SP) (OinC 2nd Brig ltr 2NCR-06-HCB/tr over P16-4 7342 dtd 6/28/44 to Subj Off.)
- 8-1-44 - Officer roster checked with 1 Jul'44 report - added Carp. Ellis. Operating at P.H. and Midway.
- 8-29-44 - 1 Aug'44 report of 10th Sp. (1st Sect.) - operating at Midway and Pearl Harbor.
- 10-10-44 - 1 Sep'44 report of 10th Sp. - 1st Sect. - operating at Pearl Harbor and Midway.
- 10-28-44 - 10th(Sp) 1st Sec. inactivated. Sec. 1 of the 10th (Sp) 1st Sec. at Midway with 5 officers and 234 men are to be known as Det. 1074(Sp). The part of the 10th (Sp) at Oahu with 9 officers and 241 men are to fill complements of CB(Sp)'s in the Hawaiian Area. Inactivation effective upon direction of Cincpoa.(CNO conf. ltr Op30-2CK15-UOT over (SC)P16-1/QR9 over Ser. 01327130 over Doc 138542 to Bupers and Cincpoa dtd 19 Oct'44.)

10th (Sp) - Sec. 1

- 12-15-44 - 10th (Sp), Sec. 1 inactivated as of 10 Nov'44 and Det. 1074 established as of 10 Nov'44. OinC of 1074 to report to 20th Reg. by ltr. (HAB Conf. ltr HAB-06-HCB/cb over P16-1 Ser 7440 to OinC 10th (Sp) 1st Sec. dtd 24 Nov'44)
- 12-28-44 - 1 Nov'44 report of 10th (Sp) Sec. 1 - located at P.H. and Midway. Report endorsed by 20th Regiment.
- 2-13-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of the 10th (Sp) Sec. 1 - The 50 men assigned to temp duty on 18 Sep'44 ret'd to duty with the unit on 4 Nov'44. 10th (Sp) Sec 1 was inactivated as of 10 Nov'44. All enlisted personnel have been reassigned and transferred as authorized.
- 2-13-45 - 1 Dec'44 report of the 14th (Sp) - 53 men were rec'd from the 10th (Sp) on 25 Nov'44.
- 4-7-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of the 14th (Sp) Sec.1 - Located at P.H.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>		<u>AUTHORITY</u>
	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MEN</u>	
30 Jun'44	16	502	Recap.
1 Aug'44	17	494	BNP625
1 Sep'44	20	490	MoR
1 Oct'44	20	488	MoR
1 Nov'44	30	483	MoR
1 Dec'44	18	481	MoR
1 Jan'45	18	466	MoR
1 Feb'45	18	460	MoR
1 Mar'45	17	461	MoR
1 Jun'45	14		Roster

10th Construction Battalion (Special) - 2nd Sect. (INACTIVATED)

10th C.B. (Special) 2nd Sec

6-28-45 - History of 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec continued:

- Dec'43 - Stevedore units were dispatched from Exeter to Teignmouth, Salcombe, Milford Haven, Newton Abbott, and Dartmouth, in addition to the detachments already at Plymouth and Falmouth.
- 28 Jun'44 - 2 off. and 75 men were dispatched from Exeter to assist Plymouth Det.
- 5 Aug'44 - 2 off. and 62 men were sent from Exeter to Portland-Weymouth.
- 21 Sep'44 - 2 off. and 53 men were sent from Exeter to Exeter To Fowey for ship loading operations.
- 3 Dec'44 - 1 off. and 40 men were sent from Exeter to Bugle ~~units~~ to load outdated and defective ammunition.
- 27 Dec'44 - 1 off. and 40 men again assigned to LST to jettison ammunition.
- 31 Mar'45 - 1 off. and 30 men were sent from Exeter to Plymouth to construct quarters for Admiral, Flt Air Wing 7.
- 4 Apr'45 - 1 off. and 15 men were dispatched from Exeter to Hurley, Berks.

Operations at Plymouth:

- 30 Oct'43 - The Plymouth detachment left Rosneath, Scotland and arrived Plymouth 31 Oct'43.
- 6 Dec'43 - 1 off. and 30 men departed for Teignmouth, leaving 1 off. and 53 men at Plymouth. The complement of this activity was increased from time to time by personnel from Exeter.

Operations at Falmouth:

- 29,30 Oct'43 - 2 off. and 47 men arrived Falmouth and were assigned quarters at Beacon Hill.
- 14 May'44 - This detachment was transferred to Exeter, temp duty at Falmouth completed.

10th C.B.

- 6-29-45 - History of the 10th (Sp) Sec 2 from 17 Jul'43 to 28 May'45, the end of the Batt's tour of duty in the BTO:
- 17 Jul'43 - Lt. D.L. Murrell was detached from duty as Exec and ordered to report on or about 17 Jul'43 to CinC Rec Bks Davisville for duty as CinC 2nd Sec and for duty outside U.S.
  - 20 Jul'43 - Co D and 1/4 Hdqtrs Co were detached and formed into CBD 1017. These off. and men were replaced by CD 2042, consisting of 5 off. and 256 men. This draft reported from Camp Peary 18 Aug'43.
  - 1 Sep'43 - Batt was alerted for overseas duty.
  - 2 Sep'43 - Advance detachment of 3 off. and 82 men departed from ARD Davisville and boarded ship at N.Y. to serve as gun crew.
  - 4 Sep'43 - Batt entrained for New York.
  - 5 Sep'43 - Sailed from New York.
  - 15 Sep'43 - Batt arrived Rosneath, Scotland.
    - 16 off. and 502 men dispatched from Rosneath as follows:
  - 5 Oct'43 - 4 off. and 125 men to Exeter.
  - 15 Oct'43 - 4 off. and 126 men to Exeter.
  - 29 Oct'43 - 1 off. and 40 men to Falmouth.
  - 30 Oct'43 - 2 off. and 75 men to Plymouth.
  - 9 Nov'43 - 1 off. to Exeter.
  - 4 Dec'43 - 4 off. and 130 men to Exeter.
- Operations at Exeter:
- 6 Dec'43 - Remaining 4 off. and 130 men arrived Exeter from Rosneath. Perm hdqtrs were established at US NavAmph Supply Base, Exeter.

10th CB (Special) 2nd Sec

- 6-28-45 - History of the 10th (Sp) 2nd Sec continued:
- Operations at Dartmouth:
- 30 Dec'43 - 1 off. and 10 men were dispatched to US Nav Adv Amph Base, Dartmouth.
  - 5 Jul'44 - Operations of this detachment completed. Det ret'd to Exeter, Devon.

INACTIVATED

10th CB Special (~~2nd Section~~)

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
6/19/44	-	Efeter	C.B. report 1 June.	Left U.S. Sept. 1748.
7/22	-	FRAY P.H.	Com 14 sec. Act diap. 060609 July.	
9/19	-	Efeter	C.B. report 1 September	
11/13	-	FRAY	Com 14 sec act diap. 062243 Nov.	2nd Brig. (partial)
11/18	-		Efeter	Compliment Kay Conf diap. 0914454 Nov.
12/12	-	Efeter	Com 14 sec act diap.	Relete from FRAY 072103 Dec.
5/22/45	-		Compliment Kay reets diap. 191653 B May.	returning entire CB to US just week in June. FFA
6/27	To be inactivated			

10th CB Special (1st section)

Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
6/19/44	-	Oahu	C.B. report 1 June.	Left U.S. Feb 1944.
7/22	-		VERB Midway	Com 14 sec Act diap. 060609 July.
10/26	-	Inactivated	by op. 30 Conf serial 01327130 19 Oct.	personnel of Oahu detachment used to fill complements in Hawaiian area. personnel at Midway will be CB det 1074 Sp. arsid - Midway.

op 30 - relet serial 214730 of 18 April - 1st section inactivated.  
10 section designation now.

## U.S. NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS SUPPLY BASE, EXETER 1428.64

## LIFELINE OF INVASION

**T**HE story of Exeter is in four parts. Fitted together, these parts combine to make a naval epic of how a great amphibious supply base came to be the lifeline of history's greatest amphibious operation. In each of these parts there were moments of greatness and moments of disappointment. But, now that the invasion of Europe is successful history, it seems just to say that the moments of greatness were definitely ascendant. In brief, Exeter's story encompasses the Days of Planning, the Days of Mud, the Days of Growth, and the Days of Fruition.

From its beginning, it was planned that Exeter should be the supply heart for an amphibious fleet which would someday take to the narrow channel sea that leads to France in numbers and in strength which even a few years ago would have seemed fantastic. But it is doubtful if anyone, in the beginning, realised to what proportions Exeter must grow before she could do her job as she was ultimately called upon to do it.

Exeter really began in September of 1943, and her beginning was the assembly of eight officers and 121 men at Lido Beach, Long Island. Of these eight officers, five are still at Exeter, and they have seen their number added until, at its peak, Exeter carried on her rolls 200 officers and 2,600 men, whose efforts were spread throughout 32 departments.

Early in 1943 plans were laid for the establishment of a group of United States Naval amphibious bases in Southern England. Later it was decided that Exeter should be the central lifeline of supply for these bases, and a map of Southern England will show how well her geographical location made her able to be that. To Falmouth, Fowey, Plymouth, and Dartmouth, and to all the other bases which ultimately comprised the operating backbone of the United States Naval Forces in Europe, Exeter's position made it possible for her to move materials in less than a day by road, overnight by rail. Her geographical position thereby gave her the first requisite of an amphibious supply base: an ability to move urgently needed materials.

To function and to grow, Exeter needed access to rail connections, and she needed room in which to rear her 85 warehouses and 198 huts and four auxiliary buildings. When finally completed, the base at Exeter covered 95 acres, with an additional 75 acres acquired as open-storage areas in Hawkerland Valley and at Winslade Park.

The land upon which Exeter was built was partly farmland and partly nine holes of an 18-hole golf course. This land was acquired by the British Government for the United States Navy. Actual construction began on 12th October, 1943.

October, like most Octobers in England, was a period of rain. So were the winter months which followed it. Rain came down in endless sheets for endless days, and the soft farmland and the green turf of the golf course gave way and sprouted mud.

The mud became Exeter's greatest enemy. It mired down her trucks day after day, and held them fast until the tractors came to pull them out. It made walking across the areas of construction a painful and laborious task. It swallowed up the first attempts at roads until, finally, a total of 100,000 loads of rock and sand had to be poured into the area before the roads were sound. It made the building of Exeter's warehouses on schedule a task which sometimes seemed impossible of accomplishment. It gave every man who worked at Exeter in those days "mudphobia." He walked through it by day, and washed himself free of it at night; his clothes were caked with it, and its pungent odour was with him while he slept. It caught at his vehicles and his machines, clogged equipment, choked radiators, sunk foundations. It was his greatest enemy, and

continued to be his greatest enemy all through the winter months when the construction fever was at its height. Neither he nor Exeter was free of the mud until the Spring of 1944.

By Spring, however, most of the headaches of construction were over. But during those long months of construction, the delivery of supplies from the States could not wait. Often at the rate of 200 freight cars per day the materials of war poured into Exeter, and there was no place for them except in the open, or under the cover of hastily erected tents. So with the coming of Spring, and the near-end of construction, there was the big job of moving these great piles of material into the new warehouses, of segregating it by classes, of inventorying it, of ordering still more and more material. And throughout this period of organisation and growth into a functioning base—as the needs of the amphibious bases, which also had been growing, began to multiply—Exeter found it necessary to function as a source of supply even while she was still in need of time to put her own house into order. By late February, 300 trucks a day were moving out of Exeter to the amphibious bases around her, and long lines of freight wagons were being loaded at the railway sidings for those same bases. Not yet in commission, Exeter was already the lifeline of invasion preparations, and her trucks thundered out that message to the bases she was supplying by night and by day.

Exeter went into commission on 3rd February, 1944. On that day, the task which lay before her was clear: invasion could not be many months away; on every side the need for urgent speed was evident; there was a tremendous supply job to be done, and not much time in which to do it. But there was no man at Exeter who did not feel that the job could be done with even greater success than the mud of the previous winter had been licked, and the problems of organisation had been overcome. There was reason for such confidence. As Exeter went into commission, the departments under her command were marshalled for the tasks which lay ahead.

#### TENTH SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

The Tenth Special Construction Battalion has been the muscle of Exeter. And the impact of its ability to handle material has been felt likewise at Falmouth and Dartmouth and Plymouth—at every United States Naval Base in England where the stevedoring talents of this battalion have been needed to handle the materials of war.

Upon the men and officers of this outfit has been thrust the tremendous job of loading and unloading the millions of tons of material which have fed through the Exeter mill. This battalion has been at Exeter since Exeter's beginning, and it had more than its share of the mud and the growing pains, and of the pressing responsibilities of the days of invasion.

Nineteen thousand six hundred freight cars have been unloaded by this battalion at the railroad sidings in Exeter. But this has been only one phase of its work. It has had to handle those loads many times. As the material has poured from the freight wagons, Tenth Battalion men have put it into the trucks of Exeter, and have unloaded it again from those trucks on Receiving Section platforms, at Hawkerland Valley, at Winslade Park, at every Exeter warehouse.

This battalion has taken 200 freight cars in its stride as one day's work. And it has yet found time to give its help to many another Exeter problem. It has run the shore patrol at Exeter, staffed the galley at the Officers Mess, completely built in its own shop six 25-ton trailers and converted 15 dump trucks into cargo trucks. It has erected huts and operated a typewriter repair shop; its influence has been felt in every phase of Exeter's operation.

And when it has been called upon to help elsewhere, it has done so with a spirit and an ability which have established performance records seldom equalled by similar organisations. At Plymouth it has unloaded in three days a ship which the Army has required eight days to unload. From midstream, in a lighterage operation, it has licked the unloading of a 4,000-ton ship in 3½ days of concentrated effort. Few phases of United States Naval activity in Europe have been left untouched by the productive punch which the 17 officers and 527 men of this battalion have packed into their months of operation in England.



## BATTALION LOG

- May 16th, 1943.—10th Special U.S. Naval Construction Battalion formed from the Stevedore Pool at Camp Peary, U.S. Naval Construction Training Centre, Williamsburg, Virginia.
- May 17th, 1943.—Military instruction under the Marines (Or did they learn something from us?)
- June 5th, 1943.—Battalion parade. Mrs. H. W. Galdsick presented colours to Lt. Comdr. H. W. Galdsick, Officer-in-Charge; and Mrs. G. D. Graves presented battalion pennant to Lieut. D. L. Murrell, Executive Officer.
- June 7th, 1943.—10th Special takes stevedore schooling aboard the U.S.S. "Naversall."
- June 28th, 1943.—East Coast men shove off for ten day embarkation leave.
- July 8th, 1943.—East Coasters return from leave.
- July 10th, 1943.—Battalion embarks for Advance Base Depot, Davisville, Rhode Island via rail.
- July 14th, 1943.—West Coasters shove off for their fifteen day embarkation leave.
- July 17th, 1943.—10th Special reformed into two individual and independent sections. Drue L. Murrell, Lieut., assumes command and George E. Minton, Lieut., the Executive post of the Second Section.
- July 21st, 1943.—Company "D" is detached and formed into the Construction Battalion Detachment 1017, for duty in North Africa.
- July 30th, 1943.—All hands back from leave.
- August 1st, 1943.—Battalion moves to Sun Valley Training Area for military tactics.
- August 8th, 1943.—back to ABD and a work-out on the docks.
- August 18th, 1943.—Casual Draft 2042, three officers and two hundred and fifty-five men with Lt. (jg) G. P. Blaufus, Officer-in-Charge and Lt. (jg) O. J. Grenier, Executive Officer, arrive from Camp Peary; becomes Company "D."
- August 19th, 1943.—New arrivals take embarkation leave.
- September 1st, 1943.—"D" Company is secure from leave and the battalion is alerted.
- September 4th, 1943.—Battalion leaves ABD, Davisville and embarks at the port of New York.
- September 5th, 1943.—Battalion sails for duty overseas.
- September 15th, 1943.—Battalion, 518 strong, lands in Scotland.
- October 5th, 1943.—First Advance Section departs for Topsham Barracks, Exeter, Devon; Lt. George E. Minton, Officer-in-Charge.
- October 16th, 1943.—Second Advance Section leaves to join the Exeter detachment.
- October 29th, 1943.—Third Advance Section with Carp, Ralph E. Lambert in charge, departs for Falmouth, Cornwall.
- October 30th, 1943.—Fourth Advance Section leaves for Plymouth, Devon, Lt. (jg) O. J. Grenier, Officer-in-Charge.
- December 4th, 1943.—Advance Sections in Exeter move to permanent quarters at U.S. Naval Amphibious Supply Base, Exeter, Devon.
- December 7th, 1943.—Headquarters of the 10th Special transferred from Scotland to the U.S. Naval Amphibious Supply Base, Exeter, Devon.
- December 22nd, 1943.—William Pappenheimer, Lt. (jg) joins the battalion.
- June 6th, 1944.—D-Day and working hard.
- June 16th, 1944.—Draft of twenty-eight enlisted personnel received aboard from the 13th U.S. Naval Construction Regiment.
- November 2nd, 1944.—Lieut. William G. Turner transferred to the 30th Special U.S. Naval Construction Battalion.
- November 4th, 1944.—Carp. William Savage detached and transferred to the 30th Special.
- December 9th, 1944.—Ensign Thomas M. Cranmor arrives aboard to relieve David S. Pool, Lt. (jg) as Supply Officer.
- December 13th, 1944.—Fifteen enlisted personnel transferred to the 114th USNCB for transportation to the U.S.A. and thirty days' leave.
- January 13th, 1945.—Lt. David S. Pool detached and transferred to the Disbursing Office of the U.S. Naval Amphibious Supply Base, Exeter.
- February 6th, 1945.—Plymouth and Falmouth detachments report to Exeter. This is the first time the battalion has been intact in sixteen months.
- February 12th, 1945.—Chief Carp. Harry C. O'Haver detached and leaves for duty on the Far Shore.
- March 5th, 1945.—Eighteen months overseas duty completed.

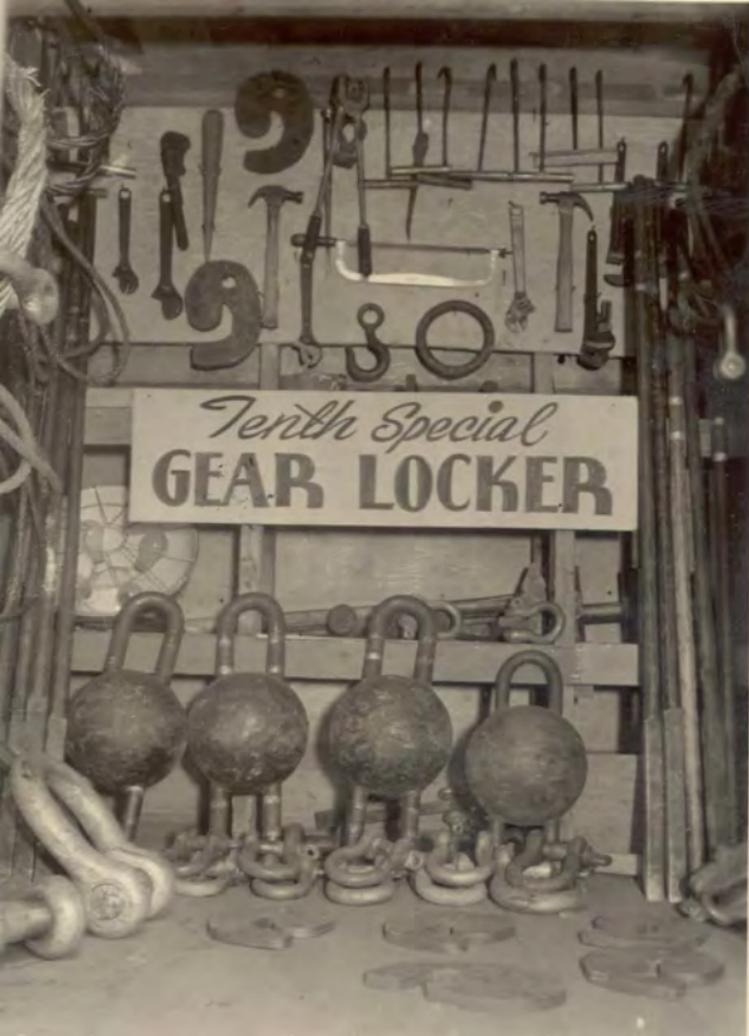




*We set the pace,  
from base to base.  
B. Gates*

*Completed training  
June, 26-1943 Camp Peary, Va.*

*Special* **10<sup>th</sup>** *Battalion*









U.S.N. 10<sup>TH</sup> SPEC. C.B.

STOP  
LOOK LISTEN



10TH SPEC. C.B.  
2ND SECTION

S.N. 135691