

34th Special Naval Construction Battalion

*Historical
Information*



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



ON BOARD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>MIN</u>	<u>AUTHORITY</u>
1 Oct'44		1047	BNP625
1 Oct'44 ?		968	BNP625
1 Jan'45	33	1046	MoR
1 Feb'45	33	1057	MoR
1 MAR'45	31	1058	MoR
1 Apr'45	31	1054	MoR
1 May'45	31		MoR
1 Jun'45	28	1181	BNP625 & MoR
1 Jul'45	28	1001	BNP625 & R
1 Aug'45	35	1127	BNP625 & R
1 Sept'45	35	1136	BNP625 & R
1 Oct'45	31	1127	BNP625 & R
1 Nov'45	25	841	BNP625 & R

34th Construction Battalion (Special) (INACTIVE^{TED})

34th CB (Sp)

NOTC - Davisville
 AED - Hueneme
 Ready Date - 25 Oct'44
 Left AED - 24 Nov'44
 Location - ~~Pearl Hbr.~~
 Guam

Log

- 1-21-44 - 34th Sp to be transferred from Davisville to Hueneme about 26 Sep for outfitting and FFA. (Conf. Disp. 181425 NCR 5672 from CNO to Davisville)
 0-9-44 - 34th Sp. arrived Hueneme from Davisville 2 Oct'44. (Rest. Disp. 041733 NCR 30964 from Hueneme to CNO)
 1-29-44 --The 34th (Sp) departed Hueneme 24 Nov'44 for Pearl Hbr. (Hueneme Sec. disp to CNO 251857 dtd 26 Nov'44).
 2-16-44 - 34th (Sp) located at Pearl Harbor and is in the 2nd Brig. (Com 14 Sec. Disp. to CNO dtd 13 Dec'44)
 1-3-45 - The 34th (Sp) is attached to the 20th Reg. (ComSerForUSPacFlt Sec. ltr Ser. 55-CKW/apic over Ser. 001389 to CNO dtd 18 Dec'44).
 2- 9-45 - The 34th (Sp) hereby detached CNB Milne Bay and upon arrival of transportation to proceed and report to CO NABU 6 FFF Subic Bay for duty. (Comser7fltt Sec Disp to CNB Milne and CNO 030411 dtd 4 Feb'45)
 2-10-45 - 1 Jan'45 report of the 34th (Sp) - operating in Hawaiian area. Report endorsed by the 20th Regiment.
 2-17-45 - The 34th (Sp) is located at Pearl Hbr. (Com 14 Sec. disp to CNO 081016 Feb'45).
 3- 5-45 - 1 Feb'45 report of the 34th (Sp) - location not given. Report end. by 20th Reg.

Location - Pearl Harbor

34th C.B. (Special)

- 4-16-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of 20th Reg. - As of the 31 Mar'45 units of the 20th Reg. namely 14th(Sp), 26th(Sp) & 34th(Sp) CB have been moved into & are occupying sites within the area known as Red Hill Encampment.
- 4-16-45 - 1 Apr'45 report of 34th CB (Sp) - on 16 Mar'45 this CB moved from Moanalua Ridge CB camp to the Red Hill Area.
- 5- 8-45 - The 34th (Sp) is located at P.H. (Dirpaddock's S.F. Sec Rep of 16 Apr'45)
- 5-15-45 - 1 May'45 report of 34th (Sp) - location not given. Report routed via 20th Reg & 2nd Brig.
- 5-18-45 - 1 Mar'45 report of 34th (Sp) - location not given. Report endorsed by 20th Reg & 2nd Brig.
- 6- 4-45 - No contemplated redeployment of 4 CB (Sp)'s now at Guam. Suggest the following: Transfer 34th (Sp) fragtrns from Pearl to Guam. Increase complement 134th CB to 2000 enl men and 50 off. (Cincpac P Sec disp 372321 May'45 to Comservpac)
- 6-7-45 - The 34th (Sp) is located at Oahu with the 20th Reg. (Comservpac conf spdltr 02787 dtd 29 May'45 to CNO)
- 6-15-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 20th Reg. - Contemplates departure of the 34th (Sp) from Oahu area.
- 6-16-45 - 34th (Sp) hereby detached from 20th Reg. Proceed in accordance with shipping instr to be issued and report to CinC 28th Reg. (Comservpac sec spdltr 002595 dtd 9 Jun to CinC 34th (Sp))
- 6-16-45 - 1 Jun'45 report of the 34th (Sp) - located at P.H. Report via 20th Reg and 2nd Brig.
- 6-25-45 - 34th (Sp) detached from 20th Reg. on 11 June. Ordered to proceed and carry out instructions contained in basic orderw. (20th Reg ltr ser 1104 dtd 11 June to CinC 34th (Sp) which was also 1st end on Comservpac sec spdltr ser 002595 dtd 9 June)

Location - Guam

34th C.B. (Special)

- 7-14-45 - 34th (Sp) deleted from 14 ND activities. (Com14 sec disp 100419 July to CNO)
- 7-18-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 20th Reg - The 34th(Sp) was secured from all duty on 10 Jun'45 and placed in an alerted status pending departure for a forward area. On 15 Jun'45 the 34th(Sp) was officially detached and assigned to duty with the 28th Reg and departed Oahu on 24 Jun'45.
- 7-23-45 - Request you direct CinC 5th Brg to inactivate 2nd (Sp) upon arrival 34th (Sp) at Guam. (Comservpac conf spdltr ser 03730 dtd 6 July to ComMariannes)
- 7-26-45 - The 34th(Sp) reported to the 28th Reg on 7 Jul'45. (CinC 28th Reg Sec 3rd Endorsement Ser 00779 dtd 7 Jul'45 to CinC 34th(Sp)).
- 8-3-45 - 1 Jul'45 report of the 34th(Sp) - On 23 Jun'45 the 34th(Sp) embarked from Pearl with 1001 men and 17 Officers. 11 officers preceded the Batt on TAD orders. On 30 Jun'45 the Batt was still on board ship enroute to forward area. Report via 28th Reg and 5th Brig.
- 8-6-45 - The 34th (Sp) added to list of activities at Guam. (IsCom Guam sec disp 100419 Aug to CNO)
- 8-17-45 - 1 Aug'45 report of the 34th(Sp) - located at Guam. On 7 Jul'45 the 34th(Sp) with 17 officers and 1001 men reported to the 28th Reg at Guam for duty. 11 officers who had preceded the Batt on TAD orders reported aboard for duty on 11 Jul'45. Report via the 28th Reg and 5th Brig.
- 9-20-45 - 1 Sept'45 report of 34th(Sp) - location not stated. Report via 28th Reg & 5th Brig.
- 10-22-45 - 1 Oct'45 report of 34th(Sp) - location not stated. Report via 28th Reg. & 5th Brig.
- 10-24-45 - Desire to inactivate 34th(Sp). Cincpac approval is requested to inactivate this unit. (Comservpac conf spdltr ser 05558 dtd 9 Oct'45 to Cincpac).

- 11-14-45 - Comservpac directs Commariansas to inactivate the 34th Sp. Advise Comservpac when inactivation is completed. (Comservpac conf spltr ser 05656 dtd 23 Oct '45 to Commariansas).
- 11-21-45 - 1 Nov '45 report of 34th(Sp) - location not stated. Report via 28th Reg. & 5th Brig.
- 11-26-45 - 34th(Sp) was inactivated on 15 Nov '45. (5th Brig conf ltr ser 13139 dtd 5 Nov '45 to 34th(Sp)).
- 12-28-45 - Final report of 34th(Sp) - location not stated. Report via 5th Brig. Inf. para. transferred to NSD, Guam & various units of 5th Brig.

INACTIVATED

34th Special

- | | | | | |
|---------|---|-----------------|---|---|
| 7/19/44 | - | (Camp Endicott) | C.O. report 1
Sep timber. | (unassigned) |
| 7/20 | - | (Huenehene) | Budocks memo
4 Sept 8, 2 Sept | Ready Oct 25. |
| 1/29 | - | (") | CNO conf disp
18/14/25 Sept | Louisville transfer
C.O. Special 34 to
Huenehene about 26 Sept |
| 1/30 | - | (Huenehene) | C.O. memo
23 Sep. | Ready Huenehene
Oct 25. |
| 1/7 | - | Huenehene | CNO conf disp
29/13/15 Sep
Huenehene rec'd
disp. 041733
act | 11. Report to
2nd M.C. Brigade.
Arrived Huenehene
from Louisville 10/2 |
| | | | Budocks Memo - | (ass'd Pearl) |
| 10/20 | - | Huenehene | Budocks memo
10/14. | Ready 10/25. send P.H.
nov. shop. priority |
| 1/28 | - | FRAY (Pearl) | Huenehene rec'd disp.
051857 Nov. | departed Nov. 04 for
FRAY |
| 2/13 | - | FRAY | Com 14 sec act
disp. 072103 Dec | 2nd Brigade |

3/4 the special

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Date	Organization	Location	Reference	Notes
7/11/45	-	-	Com 14 sec act dup 100H19	delete frag.
8/2/45	-	DUVA	20 Com Guam sec act. dup. 010H06 Req.	added

OUR STEVEDORES

Somewhere in conference rooms were men in immaculate uniforms, with intent faces, alert, probing eyes, relaxed voices and easy gestures, forming in quiet tones the plans. Under the busy fingers of typists general directives formed where only blank paper had been, and as papers circulated through the echelons of command they, in turn, became unit plans, and hastened by the needs of war, reached the 34th. There, written communications became the utterances of command through the agency of the officers, chiefs and gang bosses.

Finally, as the commands reached the ears of our men who stevedored, measurable activity began. Musters signalled the beginning of each work day, followed by the scramble into the trucks for the ride to the work stations on the docks. Throughout the months of war stevedores kept the supplies in constant movement toward the front—transferring them from ship to ship—loading, unloading, impelled by the exigency of war, in the days and in the nights at Pearl Harbor, on Hilo, Maui, and Guam—these names signify the dock locations worked by the 34th stevedores. From December 1944 to August 1945 the 34th stevedores handled 410,882 tons of cargo, and at the close of the war the men were waiting, at long last, on Guam—still stevedoring.

By this time the battalion had gained a smoothness and efficiency of operation and had become a military unit of which officers and men could be proud. A small segment of the Allied military unit had done its job, and thus meshed with the gigantic operations of global war.

And yet, such words leave blanks which words cannot adequately fill, because words cannot become men and the desires, hopes, frustrations, gripings, or soul weary homesickness of men. Descriptions of the work performed cannot add much, nor can descriptions of the heat, or the expediency of military disciplines under which men, of necessity, labored. The organization functioned well, the complete organization of the Allied Nations functioned well enough to secure the peace of the world, but no organization that was ever created by

man has matched in operation the harmony of an individual man performing, with his nerves, brain and muscles, the jobs which organizations assign him. Men did the work that answered the need of men in conference rooms, and men responded to the commands of officers, and chiefs, and gang bosses. There were 'teen agers represented here, and men in their twenties and thirties and forties, and with children and with property and businesses back home. Men from farms, from logging camps, from the factories and mills of large cities, men with law degrees and college degrees, and men with skills in the most skilled of trades—electricians, tool makers, machinists, carpenters, lens grinders; young men whose medical careers were broken off, men with philosophical bents, men who delighted in jitterbug, and men who were lulled by Strauss; loudspoken men, softspoken men, men in all the varieties of manifestation. All lived together and worked together, and how can anyone explain what this experience really is? There is a glory in it because of the immeasurable sources of knowledge—there is an infinitude of boredom in it because men are not tried to the extent of their abilities, which are considerably more than their job demands. And there is friction in it, because the diversities at times become too great, and there is harmony in it, because at times men reach moments when they begin to understand what it means to live together and work together despite all of the artificial differences of education, customs and background, as it is called.

We present our stevedores who supplied their portion of sweat, blood, and tears, and who kept the hook moving. They performed the rugged, tedious, physical activity that is stevedoring, lived out of their seabags, followed their cargo, and were still smiling, enjoying their beer, their liberties, while in the States, which had become so precious to all of us. They played ball when they had the time, wrote their letters, and in the hours of their days and nights thought about home, and continued to do their job under the tension of the military, and in the heat of the tropics, thousands of miles, and endless months from home.

COPY

ITINERARY OF THE 34TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (SPECIAL)

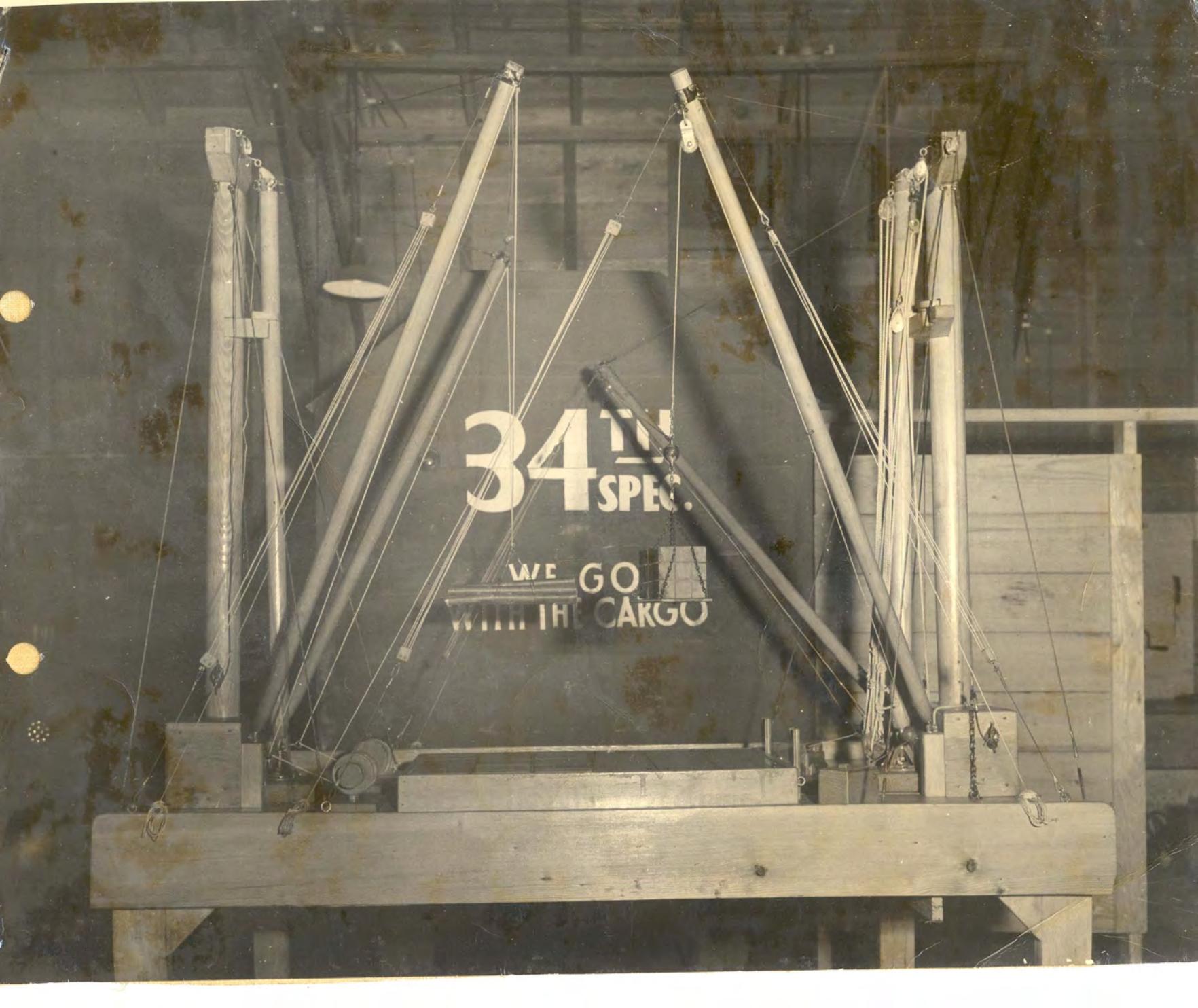
- 27 Sep 1944 - Transferred from Davisville, R. I. to Port Hueneme, California.
- 2 Oct 1944 - Arrived Port Hueneme, California.
- 24 Nov 1944 - Boarded ship - ordered to Pearl Harbor, T. H.
- 25 Nov 1944 - Departed for Pearl Harbor.
- 2 Dec 1944 - Arrived at Pearl Harbor, T. H., reporting to the 20th U. S. Naval Construction Regiment.
- 10 Jun 1945 - Battalion secured from all duty and placed in an alerted status.
- 23 Jun 1945 - Embarked from Pearl Harbor.
- 7 Jul 1945 - 17 officers and 1001 men reported to the 28th Naval Construction Regiment at Guam for duty.
- 29 Oct 1945 - At Guam.

Note: This itinerary has been checked and authenticated by the Officer-in-Charge of the 34th Naval Construction Battalion (Special).

7 December 1945.

USN
SPECIAL 34TH BATTALION





34TH
SPEC.

WE GO
WITH THE CARGO



